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# MICHIGAN CATTLE PRODUCER

• THE CATTLEMAN'S BUSINESS MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE • THE BUNCHGRASS FETISH  
NEW BRUSH CUTTER • SALT IN FEEDING  
LIVESTOCK CENSUS • OUR SOIL POTENTIALITIES

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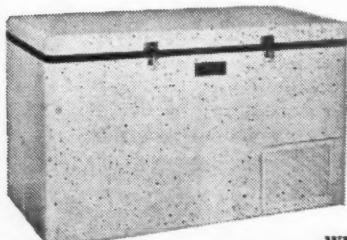
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## Letters To The EDITOR

D. P.'s in Wyoming—Since I wrote you that we would be unable to attend the Miami convention due to the expected arrival of the displaced persons (Page 27, February PRODUCER), they have come. These D.P.'s are from Czechoslovakia and are apparently very fine and intelligent people.

When the Germans invaded his country the man was in the Czech army. The Germans jailed him for a year and a half. When the Russians assumed control they jailed him for two years. After escaping to the American zone of Germany he was in an American D.P. camp for 22 months. According to what he says, the worst we hear about Communist barbarism is true. I visit with him in German, but my knowledge of that language is so scant that I cannot find out if he realizes that Communism is one of the more advanced stages of Socialism. . . . Their homeland before the war was a fruitful, abundantly productive country where ordinary people had advantages and conveniences equal to, or better than, those enjoyed anywhere else in Europe. But now there is nothing but poverty and crime. . . .

In Chicago the family missed the train and was taken to the residence of a Czech friend of a relative. This man owns a large restaurant there and offered Karl a very lucrative job to work as a chef (he has been a cook by trade); he advised him not to come further. Karl, however, felt bound to go on to his original destination. The couple would like to go back to that proffered job in Chicago, where they would be among other Czechs and in an environment where the man's earning power would be far greater immediately than it would be here, even after he had become more adept than he is now at ranch work. If I could legally detain these people here, it would be an injustice to them which would affect the quality of work done for me. Therefore I have offered to cooperate with them in getting them back to that other job. They are still here, pending word from the restaurant owner. The wife helps with our housework and, like her husband, is an eager and willing helper. Had the husband had a little more agricultural background (he did live on his father's farm as a boy) I could have a very good helper in him.

From my limited experience, I can recommend D.P.'s for any kind of work. I know a man in Lusk who had charge of one of their camps in Europe. He says they are the best people in Europe from the standpoint of character and compatibility, with the better features of America today.—Dan Hanson, Niobrara County, Wyo.

COLD, FOLLOWED BY MUD—Just through one of the coldest winters in

history, the old-timers tell me. Lots of ranches running very low on hay; hay selling for \$35 to \$40 a ton. Mud seems to be the problem now; can't get what hay is available to where it is needed.—Wesdale Farms, Lincoln County, Wash.

NEW SNOW—Had a couple inches of snow—the first in several weeks. Meadows were bare and cattle getting a lot of feed out of grazing. Fine chance to save back some hay stacks.—Carl M. Durnrud, Park County, Wyo.

A LONG SEASON—There is plenty of snow here, sufficient hay; but there will be no surplus, as this has been a long winter.—Donald W. Jewett, Sublette County, Wyo.

ABOUT CONVENTIONS—I am hearing nothing but good words on the Miami convention. Everyone thought it was a honey. Some of our boys aren't back yet but a good part are. I think you are going to have one heck of a mob from Idaho at San Francisco.—Leon L. Weeks, secretary, Idaho Cattlemen's Assn., Boise.

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## AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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# The Lookout

—By F. E. MOLLIN

The increase of cattle and calves on ranches and farms was expected. It amounted to 3 per cent during 1949 and now the total stands at 80,277,000 head. The low point in the current "cattle cycle" was on Jan. 1, 1948, and the all-time high was established in 1945; we had 85,573,000 head.

Largest increase in all cattle numbers was shown in the region designated as south central. It includes Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. All these states and many others had larger numbers; many states in the West had decreases. Texas, of course, is our big cattle state, with 8,658,000 head on Jan. 1. Florida showed an increase of 127,000 head.

Beef cattle numbers shared in the population rise to the number of 1,242,000 and now stand at 43,012,000. Of particular interest this year is the advance in beef cow numbers, which were up 5 per cent over Jan. 1, 1949. This is a record for beef cows and shows how strong our beef producing plant really is. It means more cattle for the future.

The increase in cattle was a little higher than expected and will probably continue and may climb as high as 90,000,000 head. In the background of this estimate of the future lies an expected increased grassland agriculture, our growing population of human beings, their changed eating habits from starchy foods and fats to the proteins, the general popularity of beef . . . and of course continued large consumption of beef will depend on full employment and high wages.

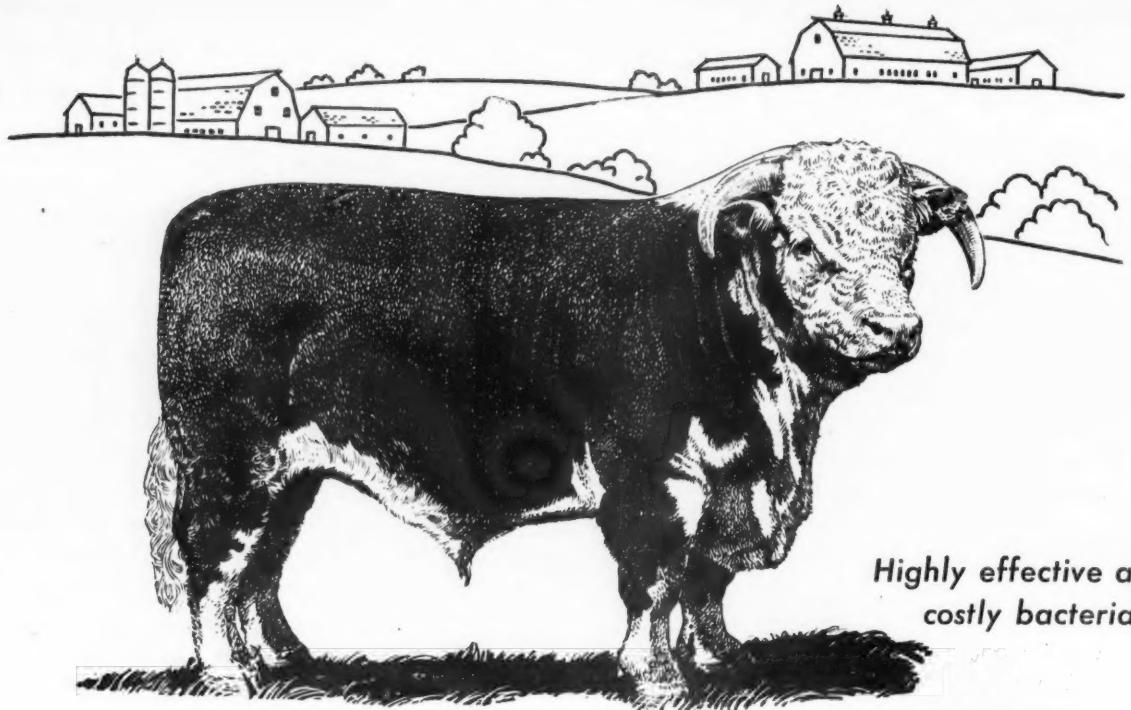
Stock sheep are down again and now, at 27,064,000 head, are at the lowest point in history. Their numbers have been falling continuously for eight years. Earlier, one of the top government livestock statisticians said that it appears that the slump in sheep numbers is ending.

Horses, too, are down again and probably will continue to drop. The number now is 7,400,000 (horses and mules). Horse numbers are 75 per cent below their prime in 1915. There are only 142,000 colts under one year. Tractors, meanwhile, have been turned out until there are now 3,750,000 of them—51 per cent as many as there are horses and mules.

An appellate decision recently handed down, involving grazing rights on the public domain, makes interesting reading. One rancher bought land and permits from another. The purchaser was told the seller's permits would be cancelled and new ones issued to him. The buyer spent money on improving the land he bought. The old permits were not cancelled and no new ones issued. The purchaser sued, lost in the lower court but won above. The court, among other things, said that the government employee may have had authority to cancel the exclusive grazing privileges but did not cancel them; and, had he done so, procedural safeguards would have been afforded which apparently were not available here.

The decision will probably have the effect of making both the Grazing Service and the Forest Service more careful in matters of this kind, but the interesting part of the ruling is the importance the court seems to attach to the question of interference with the use of a right.

The Finance and Public Relations committees of the American National met last month in Denver and both committees mapped out vigorous action for the future. It is going to require cooperation all along the line to make these plans effective. If you receive communication from either of these committees, we hope you will follow through. It is all for the good of the industry.



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## The 'Buy American' Clause

A YEAR AGO, when the fat-cattle market had suffered the sharpest decline in the history of the industry, the army blossomed out with a program to buy 10 per cent of its requirements offshore, on the specious ground that economy justified such purchases. Of course, the purchases being made in Argentina, the meat could not be brought into the United States and was diverted to supply troops overseas.

Vigorous protests from the whole domestic industry put a temporary stop to this program after the initial purchase was made, but again later in the spring the army insisted on repeating the offense. As a result, Senator McCarran of Nevada was able to insert in the army appropriations bill a strong "Buy American" clause, replacing the previous meaningless one in these bills; this prevents any purchases offshore out of any current appropriations.

Twice recently, however, the army has again purchased Argentina beef with the lame explanation that the funds used were ECA funds and that it was acting merely as a purchasing agent for that organization. . . . This, despite the fact that on Jan. 1 of this year the number of cattle on feed as reported by the Department of Agriculture set an all-time record high.

One cannot enthuse very much about the economy motive as applied by a government which is notoriously spendthrift and which insists on an unbalanced budget to the tune of several billion dollars at a time when the national income is on a very high level.

Sometimes we think the pressure for such foreign purchases stems from the State Department, which seems always to be "legging" for foreign countries via the handout method, but which seems at the same time to fail to secure the good will of those countries in the process. This would rather seem to bear out the theory that good will is not purchased.

The appropriation for the armed services department of the government is again in process by the appropriations committees of the Congress. Again it will be necessary for those committees to insert the "Buy American" clause as they did last year. This time, it is hoped that the "Buy American" policy will be extended to cover all purchases made by the army—whether they are for the consumption of its own forces; whether for the feeding of people in occupied countries under army programming, or whether the purchases are made, as in the recent instance, by the army for the ECA in the carrying-out of its programs. Such an effort will be pressed by Senator McCarran and others.

With agricultural prices generally

taking a sharp slump from the war levels, with meat prices sliding downward, it is high time that Congress concerned itself with the protection of the domestic market, not only for meats but for a lot of other things. The whole country will suffer if too much pressure is applied to agricultural prices, and the "Buy American" policy is one of the ways to help plug the leaks.

## Forest Appeal Board

THE CONTROVERSY that has raged between the Forest Service and the stockmen-permittees during the past several years (more acutely in some areas than in others) is too well known to merit additional comment. The wide-flung propaganda department of the Forest Service seems to have overreached itself, and it is interesting and gratifying to note that throughout the country sentiment is turning in favor of the stockmen. Service clubs in many areas are taking an active part, waking up to the realization that the continued, indiscriminate slashing of permits is a threat to the economy of many established communities.

It is apparent, too, that Washington is beginning to wake up to the fact that something is wrong out in the field. It is too bad that the top officials of the Forest Service did not do this a long time ago, because they had the power to right things and failed miserably to act. As a result, many individual Forest Service men in the field or in the district

offices ran rather wild in their attacks upon the livestock industry. Failing to receive any rebuke from Washington, they had a right to assume that their course was approved.

It is therefore interesting to note that finally we have come to a turn in the road. Secretary Anderson, before he left office, appointed a board of review to which matters of policy could be referred. Both Houses of Congress have just passed the Granger Bill, H.R. 5839 (now awaiting conference action), carrying an amendment sponsored by the livestock industry legalizing the local forest advisory boards, much along the lines of the advisory boards established under the Taylor grazing administration. The latest development is the announcement by Secretary Brannan that he will create a forest advisory board of appeals, members of which are to be appointed from the Department of Agriculture, outside of the Forest Service itself; to this board stockmen can carry individual appeals from decisions affecting their own particular permits.

There has been sharp criticism of the fact that the board will be created entirely from personnel of the Department of Agriculture, and the assertion has frequently been made that you cannot expect one branch of that department to sit in judgment upon another branch and in the process give the appealing livestock permittee fair and equitable treatment.

The PRODUCER feels that it is too early to condemn this board until it has had a fair chance to show what it will do. In the first place, the very creation of it is evidence of the fact that Secretary Brannan realizes that the bitter controversy which has raged in many areas, based on the arbitrary actions of Forest Service officials, serves to discredit all bureaucratic administration. We have reason to believe that many of the other branches of the Department of Agriculture and of some of the other divisions of the federal government are very much disturbed over the criticism of bureaucracy which the Forest Service has brought upon them all. Further, all is not peace and quiet within the huge family of the United States Department of Agriculture. In intra-departmental huddles where matters of policy affecting the whole agricultural economy are debated, such as production goals and other similar matters, there have been many sharp differences of opinion, with the Forest Service always holding out for inclusion of language critical of the livestock industry and repeating its stock-in-trade phrase that "the range is being overgrazed."

We have some hopes, therefore, that this board, when appointed, will realize its responsibility to the country as a whole and will endeavor to render impartial decisions. (Turn to Page 33).

## Digging a Hole— To Get Out of One



# Count Shows MORE CATTLE

CATTLE numbers increased nearly 2,000,000 head or about 3 per cent during 1949. This marked a definite up-trend in the cattle numbers cycle which reached the low point two years ago and showed only a slight increase during 1948. The increase in all cattle was accompanied by gains for all of the different classes except steers. The steer population was reduced by a record steer slaughter in 1949. Although slightly more cattle and calves were on feed than a year ago, there were fewer steers and more calves in the cattle on feed inventory.

## Increase in Beef Cows

On the other hand, cow slaughter was the smallest in several years. This, and increased replacements, led to the upturn in cow numbers. The number of cows kept mainly for beef production reached a new high at the beginning of this year, while milk cow numbers were increased slightly. The largest percentage increases in all cattle numbers were noted in the south Atlantic and south central states. Slaughter of cattle and calves, although slightly less than in 1948, was still relatively large. The heavy slaughter and the increase in inventories were supported by a good calf crop in 1949. Imports from Canada were less than in previous years, but the reduction was largely in dairy types with some increases noted for feeder cattle. The quarantine on Mexican imports of cattle remained in effect during 1949.

Hog numbers were the largest since 1946 and were up 6 per cent from last year. Nearly all the increase was in hogs under six months old and reflects the increase in the fall pig crop. The number of hogs over six months old was about 1 per cent higher than last year. However, all this increase was in the number of sows and gilts being held for

## LIVESTOCK ON FARMS JAN. 1, 1950

Class of Livestock	Average 1939-48	1948	1949	1950
Cattle	77,600,000	78,126,000	78,298,000	80,277,000
Cows 2 yrs. for milk*	26,175,000	25,039,000	24,416,000	24,625,000
Hogs	61,634,000	55,028,000	57,128,000	60,424,000
All sheep	48,112,000	34,827,000	31,654,000	30,797,000
Stock sheep	41,829,000	29,976,000	27,651,000	27,064,000
Horses	9,054,000	6,589,000	5,898,000	5,310,000
Mules	3,450,000	2,541,000	2,348,000	2,153,000
Chickens	486,359,000	461,550,000	448,676,000	481,190,000
Turkeys	7,056,000	4,450,000	5,540,000	6,120,000

\*Cows two years old and over kept for milk.

spring farrowing. The number of other hogs over six months old was down 3 per cent from last year. Marketing of hogs from the spring pig crop started early and was very rapid during the fall months. This resulted from earlier farrowings, lighter weights and a heavy rate of feeding to reach marketable weights earlier.

## Sheep Numbers Lowest

Sheep numbers continued downward in 1949, but showed the smallest decrease since the decline began in 1942. Stock sheep numbers are at an all-time low in the 83 years of record and 45 per cent below the recent peak in 1942. Sheep and lambs on feed were down 7 per cent from a year earlier and the smallest since 1922. Slaughter of sheep and lambs in 1949 was the lowest since 1918, and about 21 per cent below 1948. The proportion of the ewes in the 1949 slaughter was less than in any year since 1941. Even so, the 1949 lamb crop was not large enough to maintain sheep inventories during the year. The number of ewe lambs held indicates the down-trend in stock sheep may be coming to an end, although there is evidence that interest in sheep raising is reviving.

Even with a slightly larger number of livestock and poultry, the farm value of \$13.2 billion was 10 per cent below the record high of \$14.6 billion last year, but 54 per cent above the average. Except for sheep, Jan. 1 values of all species were lower than a year ago.

Near record stocks of corn remained on farms on Jan. 1. The total supply of feed grains on farms was second only

to that of Jan. 1, 1949, both in total and per-animal unit.

## Texas Leads in Cattle

Leading cattle states are given in the report as follows: (All cattle) Texas, 8,658,000; Iowa, 5,007,000; Nebraska, 3,920,000; Wisconsin, 3,804,000; Kansas, 3,627,000; Minnesota, 3,276,000; Illinois, 3,159,000; Missouri, 3,107,000.

The Press Service of the Department of Agriculture gives the present horse, mule and tractor relationship in estimated numbers as follows: As of Jan. 1, 1950, farm tractors stood at about 3,750,000 as compared with 7,400,000 horses and mules combined. That's 51 per cent as many tractors as there are four-legged power plants. Horse numbers are now 75 per cent below what they were in the heyday of 1915, and colts under one year actually stand at only 142,000. "It's not nice reading for old-time equestrian devotees," says E. R. McIntyre of the Press Service.

## U. S. Leads World In Agricultural Production

Here are the eight leading countries in cultivated land area (field crops, forage, gardens, tree and bush fruits):

	Acres (millions)	Per- centage of total culti- vated land	Culti- vated under per capita culti- vation (acres)	Percent- age of world's culti- vated land
United States	435	22.8	3.13	17.6
Soviet Union	414	7.9	2.43	16.8
India	382	37.9	.98	15.5
China	177	13.8	.29	7.2
Argentina	64	9.3	4.56	2.6
Canada	63	2.9	5.29	2.5
Germany	50	42.8	.72	2.0
France	49	36.3	1.22	2.0

## Farm Income Shows Drop

The USDA stated, in a Feb. 21 release, that the nation's farm operators in 1949 realized 17 per cent less net income from farming than in 1948. This report is based on preliminary estimates of the BAE. The realized net income, according to these, was 13.8 billion dollars in 1949, as compared with a 16.7-billion total in 1948. The record high for farm income was reached in 1947, when the 17.8 billion dollars netted was 22 per cent higher than the newly published figure for last year.

\* \* \*

Livestock assets of the country are estimated by the USDA at 13.2 billion Jan. 1. (14.6 billion Jan. 1, 1949).

## LOUISIANIANS AT MIAMI



# THE BUNCHGRASS FETISH

By LYNN H. DOUGLAS

(Stockmen will want to read this article by an expert on range grasses who also has an eye to the practical purpose of our natural resources. We consider it a fine article.—ED.)

**THOSE WHO SETTLED THE WEST**  
 encountered several characteristic types of vegetation. There were the bunchgrasses of the prairies, foothills and mountains; the short grass types of the prairies, and the sagebrush type of the high plains and foothills.

In view of the emphasis that the Forest Service, of late, has placed on the restoration of bunchgrasses in the mountains, it might be interesting to consider the history and known importance of these grasses.

Before the settlers came, the first cattle were being brought over the Montana Trail from Texas to the northern prairies. The cowboys, in many places, saw waving, tall, reddish colored bunchgrass extending for miles. There were other grasses, but these two or three species of *Andropogon* predominated. They were coarse and tough when mature, and, at this stage, not the most preferred. They were the most abundant, however. Of necessity, the big droves of cattle must subsist on them to a great extent. The cowboys learned that if the

herds reached these stretches of bunchgrasses in the spring or early summer, the cattle ate it more readily, but the herds were so large and the cattle were so ravenous on the long trail that they devoured the grass at any season.

## Replacement Grasses

It was noted that on the areas along the trail, where the bunchgrasses were used the most heavily, these *Andropogons* were soon killed—say, perhaps, in the course of three or four years. Where such grazing lasted too long and was too severe Russian thistle and similar worthless species followed the overgrazing. Where the overgrazing was not carried too far the cowboys saw red bunchgrass replaced, in many places, by one or two curly, matted, grasses. In some sections the two were in the same general territory. In other places one or the other grew alone with the bunchgrasses. They tended to spread and thicken with the weakening of the bunchgrasses. They were better grasses than the bunchgrasses. They were particularly good in fall and winter, long after the bunchgrasses had become worthless. They were the grama grass and the buffalo grass. The settlers who followed the trail herds, many of whom were no doubt the trail herd cowboys, soon knew they did not want the old bunchgrasses re-

stored if they had the grama grass (*Bouteloua gracilis*) and buffalo grass (*Buchloe dactyloides*) in their pastures and on their ranges.

**R**ANGE ecologists have never ceased to marvel at the apparent contradiction in nature of the climax bunchgrass being replaced by a better and more resistant grass. A climax plant is one which will take over and finally survive natural competition over long years of non-interference by man, grazing animals, fire, protracted drouth, etc. Nature has provided that climax species shall be at least as good as, or better than, competing species. This rule applies whether the vegetation is forest, grass, weeds, shrubs. But we see this rule break down with respect to the bunchgrasses. With the heavier grazing use by domestic livestock the bunchgrasses could no longer compete and they were replaced by grasses more resistant to grazing, and what is more important, better forage plants. And so it is with western bunchgrasses generally, as we shall see.

As the herds on the Montana Trail proceeded northward they saw less and less of the characteristic big bunchgrasses, the *Andropogons*, and gradually got into the buffalo grass, grama grass, western wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii*) types of western Nebraska, eastern



BUNCHGRASS TYPE on western Oklahoma cattle range. Bunchgrass (*Andropogon*), ungrazed in background, eliminated in foreground and replaced by a dense cover of more palatable grasses. Forest Service photo.

Wyoming and southeastern Montana. Farther north in Montana the buffalo grass disappeared. Junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*) was more or less in all the middle and northern plains.

From the discussion thus far it is seen that the bunchgrasses are fairly good summer forage, especially early. They are poor or worthless in the fall or winter. They are difficult to manage as forage because they must be "babied" due to their low resistance to grazing. If they give way to heavy grazing they ordinarily will be replaced by more valuable species as already mentioned in the case of the grama grass, western wheatgrass and the buffalo grass on the prairies. In the foothills and mountains and mesas of the Rocky Mountains three characteristic bunchgrasses are found. On the Western Slope in Colorado is the Thurber's bunchgrass (*Festuca thurberi*). It laps over onto the Eastern Slope at high altitudes. On the Eastern Slope, at lower elevations of the mountains, in the southern half of Colorado and on into the mesas of New Mexico and Arizona, in the ponderosa pine type is the Arizona bunchgrass (*Festuca arizonica*). Both of these bunchgrasses are readily eliminated if they are not "babied" in grazing of livestock. When Thurber's bunchgrass is eliminated by those who have not the time or patience to "baby" it, with reasonable use, it will be replaced by mountain bromegrass, slender wheatgrass, sedges, Kentucky bluegrass, native bluegrasses and needlegrass—all good forage plants, better than the bunchgrass and more resistant to grazing.

The Arizona bunchgrass when driven out will be replaced by sedges and western wheatgrass if favored by reasonable stocking. It grows in a harsher, drier site and must be favored, but the sedges and the western wheatgrass are better grasses and are more resistant to grazing. Farther north in Colorado, on the Eastern Slope, the muhly bunchgrass (*Muhlenbergia montana*) is the one most commonly met with, though the red bunchgrasses of the prairies are found. Here, cheatgrass is a problem. Much misinformation has been publicized about this annual plant (*Bromus tectorum*). Its connection with overgrazing has been greatly exaggerated. The Forest Service here claims it can be controlled by restoring the muhly bunchgrass. That is not the case. It can be found now, invading a maximum, ungrazed stand of muhly bunchgrass. It chooses hot, dry, slopes mainly. Its spread on the front range of Colorado is due chiefly to its finding favorable soil, slope and exposure, the opinion of the Forest Service to the contrary notwithstanding. This is proved by the wide occurrence of cheatgrass on areas never grazed, or only lightly grazed.

ASSOCIATION of cheatgrass with bunchgrasses naturally brings into a discussion the situation in the northwest  
(Continued on Page 32)

# A New Brush Cutter

By LAWRENCE B. MERCHANT

IN COMMON WITH MOST OF THE ranches in the southwestern area, our ranch, the San Simon, located in the southeastern part of Lea County, New Mexico, has been suffering from a gradual but continuous encroachment of mesquite brush for more than 25 years. Our best estimate of the loss of carrying capacity caused by this increase is 25 per cent. To make the problem more serious, the greatest increase in density of this growth has come around our permanent waterings and in our best pastures. The seeding of the mesquite by cattle is probably the main cause for this particular situation as the greatest livestock traffic is naturally in these areas. We are therefore not only robbed of this much carrying capacity but its location causes our weakest cattle to have to walk through the brush area greater and greater distances in order to get to good grass. In the spring, particularly, this is an expenditure of strength and energy which the poorer cows can ill afford.

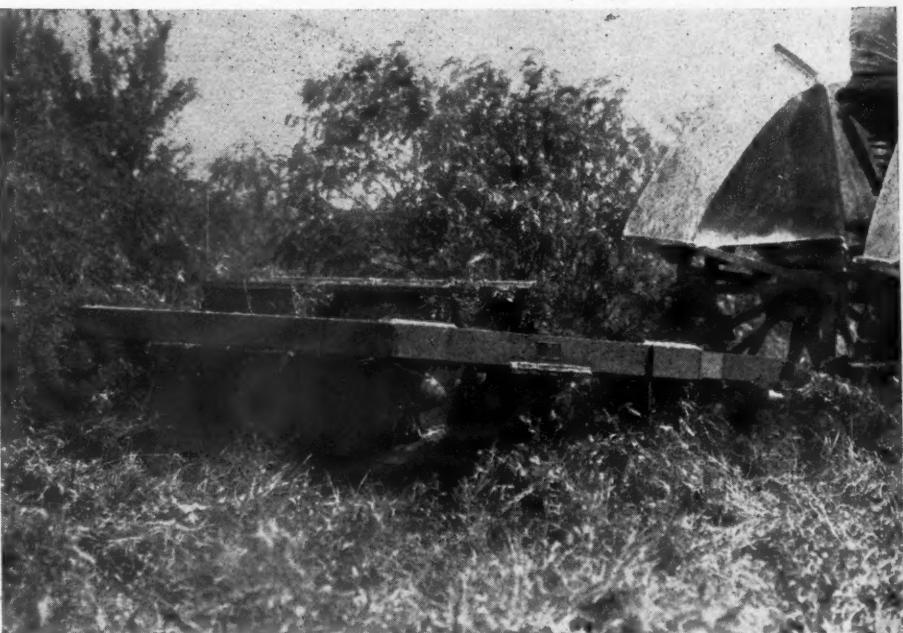
We have long been aware of this development, but until recently no economical method of eradication or control has come to our attention. As 90 per cent of our ranch is state or federal land, under the Taylor Grazing Act, we have never thought it economical to spend the \$15 to \$20 which it costs to "doz," cable or kerosene an acre of mesquite. The carrying capacity is about 40 acres to an animal, and to spend such sums on land we do not own would be

prohibitive. The brush has become so thick that we are forced to clear driveways and round-up grounds. Our average cost has been in excess of \$20 per acre.

**A** BOUT a year ago it came to our attention that a firm in Corpus Christi, Tex., had designed a brush cutter known as the "Caldwell Brush Cutter," so designed that it has a tremendous concentration of weight on a comparatively small cutting surface. The machine is made in various sizes, but the weight per foot of area cut at one operation varies between 1,000 and 2,000 pounds. The smallest machine cuts six feet at a time and weighs approximately 6,000 pounds. The largest one cuts 10 feet and weighs 21,000 pounds.

On a ranch in the Gulf Coast area, where cutting of brush and small timber is a daily practice, this cutter clears trees and brush up to three and four inches in diameter, being pulled by a caterpillar tractor. Average cost for the initial cutting is a little under \$5 per acre. This cost of operation is about one-third of the minimum of any other method devised thus far, and is getting close to the amount which could be spent on public land ranges such as ours.

In October the manufacturers of this cutter brought one of the machines to the San Simon ranch for experimental purposes and to demonstrate what results might be had. We cut for about eight hours, working in some of the largest and most dense growth on the



Picture shows 6-foot, 6,000-pound cutter in mesquite Huisache. The blades dig small trenches in the soil every 14 inches as the brush is cut up in 14-inch lengths which lie flat on the ground. The heaviest cutters cut brush up to 6 inches in diameter.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

ranch. A total of approximately 12 acres was covered, using a medium weight machine (12,000 pounds) and with a good many delays in moving from one type of brush and soil to another. The man who operated the caterpillar Model D-7 estimated that, with the 10-foot machine of the heaviest weight and the same model caterpillar, we could cut four acres an hour and that it could be done for \$5 per acre.

As this is a long-range plan, it is impossible to tell this soon how effective results will be. The manufacturer makes no claim that this surface cutting will eradicate the mesquite after a single cutting. The theory is that it will kill the present growth but that the numerous buds just under the surface of the soil will send up sprouts and that within three or four years a second cutting with a light machine will be necessary. The cost of this second cutting should be one-half or two-thirds of the cost of the original cutting of the large brush.

Still a third re-cutting will probably be necessary after another three or four years, the intervals depending upon moisture conditions and varying types of soil.

The blades of the cutter dig small trenches in the soil every 14 inches. This acts as a perfect moisture retainer and it is the general belief of the Soil Conservation people and the PMA representatives who have studied the matter that, with six or eight years, native grasses will reclaim the range where the mesquite is cut. The litter which remains after the original cutting disappears almost completely within the first year. The brush is cut up in 14-inch lengths and lies flat on the ground. Natural decay plus destruction by worms would destroy this litter within approximately that time. There is every indication in our experiment that this theory will be proved in actual experience.

We have discussed this method of mesquite control—for control is all it pretends to be—with the Soil Conservation people in our area. They are most interested. A number of them attended our demonstration. We have also discussed the problem with the PMA people. All have indicated a definite interest in the program. This work of brush control has been set up as an approved practice for 1950 by PMA in the Lea County District with approval of the state committee. It is suggested that an allowance of \$5 per acre could be made, with the understanding that approximately \$3 would be applied to the initial cutting, and the remaining \$2 be allotted 50 per cent at the time of the first cut-over and the other 50 per cent (\$1) at the time of the second cut-over. The purpose of division of the \$5 is to guarantee that the rancher will cooperate in following the program through and reclaim the range to grass.

In about half the acreage which we  
(Continued on Page 31)

# March and April Prices The \$64 Question

By H. W. FRENCH

CATTLEMEN ARE STILL TALKING about the market of February, 1949, tying in the quick recovery following the severe losses early that month. The course of the market this year was not similar. The lower grade steers worked up and the average good and choice sold lower than a month earlier. Offerings were usually well controlled but in the aggregate enough cattle showed up to enable buyers of better grade steers and heifers to force some decline.

Now that we are about through February, what may we expect in March and April? That of course is the \$64 question. Answers in advance vary from higher to lower. Those advocating higher prices base their reckoning on prospects of shorter receipts after the middle of March, while those looking for a lower trend argue that those that passed up February this year as their marketing period will come to market in March and April and that will mean bigger receipts.

Unemployment increased by strikes and lay-offs has been the main bearish factor for the past several weeks, and should the big strikes end more employment is expected which in turn will have its influence at the meat markets. Many of the economists are bullish on practically everything just ahead and some

look for a minor boom before any material reaction sets in.

The continued supply of fat cattle is attributed to the level of prices despite the lower tendency as shortfeds are still making money. Some steers marketed recently after 120 days in the feedlot made \$50 to \$60 per head profit. The situation is now slightly less favorable but profits are still being made. Not until these profits are turned into losses can we expect much letup in receipts.

As a whole, those favoring a healthy market for the next two months are in the majority. Owners are in a far better position than a year ago and most cattle are in strong hands. The rapid increase in the buying of replacement stock is further evidence of how most feeders feel about the future trend.

One noticeable thing at present is the way the price spread has been narrowing. The cheaper fat cattle such as common and medium steers and heifers, bulls and canner and cutter cows are bringing more, based on their actual value, than the good and choice fed steers and heifers.

The percentage of choice grade cattle is increasing slightly, yet there are many medium to low good steers and heifers available. Some of the shortfed steers have become more attractive to



The Arizona Cattle Growers Association met at Globe Feb. 24-25. The picture above is of the new officers (left to right): Catherine Cundiff, assistant secretary, and Mrs. J. M. Keith, the secretary, both of Phoenix, in front. Behind them: John Babbitt, Flagstaff, president; Ralph Cowan, Douglas, first vice-president; Fred Turley, Snowflake, second vice-president, and Bob Perkins, Prescott, treasurer. Mr. Babbitt succeeds Carlos Ronstadt of Tucson. F. E. Mollin, executive secretary, American National, Denver, was present at this 46th yearly gathering.



California delegates get their Florida convention picture taken.

finishers than to killers and there is little chance for killer buyers to raid prices on this type.

#### Chicago Prices:

High medium to choice fed steers at Chicago closed mostly 50 cents to \$2 lower than a month earlier; most loss on high good and better. Good to choice heifers steady to \$1 off. Common to low medium steers and heifers \$1 to \$2 higher. Beef cows \$1.75 to \$3 higher except canners and cutters. Sausage bulls mainly 25 to 50 cents higher; calves and vealers strong to \$1 up.

Although fed steers sold as high as \$36 and some \$34.50 to \$35.50 only small part made \$30 and higher. A great many medium to good steers \$22.50 to \$28 and some common below \$20. Heifers scarce above \$28; highly finished kinds reached \$33. Most good cows downward from \$20 but best \$21. Canners and cutters bulked \$12.50 to \$16.50. Medium to good heavy sausage bulls \$20 to \$22.50. Most vealers downward from \$32; some choice \$33.

Canner and cutter cows are costing as much on a dressed basis as any of the medium to good beef cows. The high price of bulls probably resulted in the need of substitution in sausage material with the use of lower grade cows of lower

yield. Current demand for sausage is big and buyers are having a hard time getting the necessary material such as bulls and low grade cows.

It was an easy matter to find an outlet for stockers and feeders, partly because of their seasonal scarcity and mainly because replacement stock is badly wanted. With the method of short feeding most cattle it means a more frequent turn-over, bringing feeders back into the market more often.

Closing prices for stockers and feeders at Chicago were chiefly 50 cents to \$1 higher but cows and heifers on country account showed even more gain. All other markets reported broad competition for stockers and feeders with some buyers mainly after the thin light cattle and another set of buyers taking only short-fed 800- to 1,000-pound steers.

Many medium to good stocker and feeder steers were taken at \$21.50 to \$24.50 and some good to choice scored \$24.75 to \$25 and light yearlings making \$25.25. Sioux City reported some outstanding yearling steers at \$27 and Omaha had some 1,100-pound steers as high as \$28. Fancy 600-pound yearling

steers at Denver went at \$27.25 to \$27.85, also some 600-pound yearling heifers suitable for breeding at \$27.50.

Any number of good steer calves at Denver scored \$28 to \$28.80 and some good to choice under 450 pounds made \$30 to \$30.50 with both heifer calves and mixed steer and heifer calves as high as \$29.25. It is not very long before grass time and it is seasonal for many pasture operators to want thin little stock.

#### Texas Figures High

Replacement cattle are being held at high figures in Texas. Some yearling heifers were held at \$24 to \$24.50 with a few sales on that basis. Two-year-old steers are held around \$25.00, while thin 500- to 550-pound short yearlings are at \$30. Wheat and oats in Texas and Oklahoma are reported as belly high and some cattle owners are not willing to sell anything for immediate delivery. There is a big movement out of Kansas and some two-year-olds off of wheat pastures are selling at \$23.50. Some two-year-old steers in California are going at \$22.50 to \$23.

There were 80,277,000 cattle in the country on Jan. 1, or 3 per cent above a year earlier. This included 24,625,000 cows two years old and older kept for milk, or an increase of over 200,000 head. Hogs at 60,424,000 were up over 3,000,000 head. All sheep at 30,797,000 fell off over 850,000 and stock sheep at 27,064,000 were down about 600,000.

The increase in all cattle was accompanied by gains for all of the different classes except steers, the record slaughter of the latter class in 1949 being responsible for the reduction. Nearly all the increase in hogs was in hogs over six months old and reflects the increase in the fall pig crop. Sheep showed the smallest decrease since the decline began in 1942. Stock sheep were 45 per cent below the peak in 1942.

The support price for hogs in March is \$16.20, while the average price of barrows and gilts at seven markets for the week ended Feb. 18 was \$16.98. Nothing has been issued on support prices after March.

For a time it looked as though hog prices were headed toward the \$20 level



Some Coloradans at Miami.

# "I am the grass...let me work"

Let me work  
the miracle of  
changing soil, water,  
sunlight and air into  
a living, growing plant.

Let my roots reach into the  
good earth to gather minerals and  
nutrients; store them in my leaves  
and stalks. Thus I become food for  
livestock, bone and flesh, hide and wool.  
I become meat and milk, man's finest  
protein foods that contribute greatly to the  
energy, initiative and wealth of America.

In the expansion of our livestock-grass economy lies a hope for an adequate meat diet for our growing population. Through meat animals, grass creates protein foods for human use... returns 80 per cent of its growth elements to the soil as manure. Grass protects our productive topsoil from wind and water erosion... holds moisture in the soil... helps restore and maintain organic matter. Grass works to keep America fertile.

Livestock producers are finding that it pays to pay attention to their grass. Today there are farmers and ranchers who are producing 400 to 600 pounds of beef per acre on grass alone. Hog and sheep raisers are finding that good alfalfa or rye pasture is worth \$50 an acre, and more. Dairy farmers find their grass worth up to \$169 an acre. County agents, experiment stations, conservationists and colleges can help you make more from your grass, no matter where you live.

Yes, *I am the grass, let me grow in place of worthless weeds and brush... on land that never should be cropped. Put me back on land that never should have seen the plow. Let me work for you as your humble but mighty friend.*

## OUR CITY COUSIN



Soda Bill Says:  
I'd rather make a living on my  
own hook, than hook the tax-  
payers for my living.

MARCH, 1950



## BIG does not mean BAD

It takes a big ship to carry a big cargo. It takes a big locomotive to pull a heavy train. It takes a big industry like yours and mine to do the big job of feeding America and a lot of the rest of the world. It takes big companies as well as little ones to keep that industry operating efficiently.

I firmly believe that the nation needs nation-wide meat packers, such as Swift & Company. The continuous research and education, and the complete utilization of by-products, which our size makes possible, are valuable services to the nation and its people. We help to bring the advantage of a nation-wide demand to livestock producers. We help to provide consumers everywhere with the kinds of meat they want.

I am sure that American agriculture, of which we are a part, can meet the needs of our growing population which wants and should have improved diets.

But we shall meet these demands only if we continue to nurture and encourage enterprise, ambition, and success. Only if we have the faith and courage to work and fight to create our own success. Let us, then, be careful not to confuse the issues. Let us condemn and eradicate evil practices wherever we find them, whether in big industries or small. But let us, and all Americans, realize the danger before we attack enterprise and success—lest we destroy not only the industry and civilization we have created, but also the hope and the heritage of our world for generations to come. \* \* \*

The above message is from the speech of our President, Mr. John Holmes, before the American National Live Stock Association at Miami. I have quoted it here because I believe that it will be interesting and encouraging to the millions of livestock producers who were not able to be at the convention. Agricultural Research Dept.

F.M. Simpson

**Swift & Company**  
UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILL.  
Nutrition is our business—and yours

## Martha Logan's Recipe for HAM SCRAPPLE

(Yield: 6 servings) 2 1/2 cups boiling water  
2 cups ground smoked ham 1/2 cup milk  
1 cup corn meal 1 1/2 tps. prepared  
1 tablespoon sugar Shortening or ham  
1/2 teaspoon salt drippings

Mix together corn meal, sugar, and salt. Add slowly to boiling water and milk. Cook slowly in heavy pan, stirring occasionally, about 20 minutes. Add ham and mustard and mix well. Pack into loaf pan. Chill. When cold and firm, slice in 1-inch slices. Fry slices in quick-mix type shortening or drippings until brown on each side.

## PREVENTING LOSSES FROM POISONOUS RANGE PLANTS

by Prof. A. L. Hershey  
State Teachers College  
Florence, Alabama



Livestock farming, like any other business, is a success only if and when it makes a profit. Every producer of livestock should be on the lookout against the fact that many *small* losses during the year can seriously cut down his profits. Lots of these losses can be prevented if one knows their causes and takes steps to prevent them.

One place to watch for trouble is in the forage the animals eat. Livestock depend largely upon plants for the food which promotes their growth and general health. Unfortunately, nature has not made all plants of value to animals. Especially on the western ranges, many plants are undesirable as forage. And some of them are actually detrimental to livestock. This condition results from poisonous chemical compounds in the plants. In some cases the plant manufactures the poison within its own tissues. In others, it absorbs toxic substances from the soil in which it grows. Either of these leads to the same result—the plant becomes poisonous, meat animals die, the producer loses money.

Larkspur, death camass, lupine, loco and many other range plants cause a great death loss of range stock each year. By writing to his state agricultural college, a producer can learn how to identify these dangerous plants and to know when they are poisonous. Then he can set up and practice a plan of range management to destroy or prevent them; or to avoid using areas infested with such plants during the danger season. He would find that profits from prevention of losses from poisonous plants are well worth while in his livestock operations.

predicted by many some time ago, but the late reaction may mean that this basis will not be approached, at least for some time. Some are now turning bearish on hog prices for the next few months.

Plenty of lamb contracting is going on in various producing areas. Some of the deals are for close-up delivery but many of the contracts are for fall delivery. To date nothing has changed hands in Colorado where growers are asking mostly \$23 for their lambs for fall delivery.

Arizona spring lambs for March and April deliveries have been reported at \$25 to \$26. About 75 per cent of the pasture lambs in Imperial Valley, California, are out of first hands, with early deals at \$23 to \$23.50 and those late at \$24 to \$25. Some spring lambs were reported in California at \$25 to \$26. Others were under contract at \$26.25 to \$26.50. About 75,000 spring lambs in the San Joaquin Valley were under contract by mid-February.

Many lambs in Wyoming sold for fall delivery at \$20.50 to \$21.50 and some early went as low as \$20. The Montana contracts called for delivery at \$21 to \$21.50, but some ewe lambs in northern part of the state were under contract at \$22.50 to \$23. Many shorn whiteface ewe lambs in Texas were reported at \$22 to \$23 with estimated weights at delivery 85 to 90 pounds. Mixed woolly feeder lambs are selling at \$23 to \$23.50.

## Soil Potentialities For World's Food

From the address of Charles E. Kellogg, chief of Soil Survey, USDA, at American National meeting in Miami:

**WE DON'T NEED TO SELL THE** idea of abundance. The whole population wants it, desperately. We, as Americans, must help, each in his own way. We must help people in our own country and in other countries, because they need . . . technical assistance and capital . . . And also because unless we do, there will be neither peace nor abundance here for long.



Charles E. Kellogg

Solutions of the world food problem require, first of all, affirmative faith in science, in democracy and in people. Knowledge has enormous power. We must increase it and let it flow freely around the world. . . .

Let us look at a rough measure of the job. Shortly after its organization in Quebec in the autumn of 1945, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—FAO—made a world survey of food needs. This was based upon the probable population in 1960 and the level of food production just before World War II. In broad terms, here are the increases needed for the world: 163 per cent more fruits and vegetables, 100 per cent more milk, 46 per cent more meat, 80 per cent more pulses and nuts, 34 per cent more fats and oils, 21 per cent more cereals, 12 per cent more sugar and 27 per cent more roots and tubers.

LOOKED at collectively, these increases mean an enormous job. In two ways they are even bigger than they look. First, the greatest needs are of the protective foods—those high in minerals, vitamins, and proteins—the ones most difficult to increase. Secondly, the people of the world don't feed out of a common

larder, nor can they. The needed increases can be had easily in some places but only with great difficulty in others. Even now, some countries are worried about the spectre of farm surpluses, while in others food is still in short supply.

In other respects, the job is not so big as it looked 10 years ago, or even five years ago. With facilities that are puny compared to those used in the last war, agricultural technology, medical service, transport, and industry have advanced enormously. By projecting onto a world scale what has been done in some countries, we find ample labor and ample resources. And even now, efficiency of agriculture is increasing at an accelerated rate.

Let us look at the situation broadly in our own country. In 1820, one farm person supported 4½ other people. In 1946, this figure was 14½. Five years ago committees of agriculturists in our state land-grant colleges and the Department of Agriculture came to the conclusion that 15 per cent increases in production could be had by practical farmers in this country. This was a conservative figure. It represented what it would be "practical" for operating farmers to do. And the estimated production, on the average, was about 43 per cent over pre-World War II—the base for the FAO survey. These committees were thinking of 1950. Actually, their tentative goals were reached in 1948, over a year ago. Certainly similar committees would estimate at least another 15 per cent increase today, or a level of around 60 per cent over the base, 1935-39. And, unless we manage our affairs very badly, efficiency per farm worker will keep on going up.

**WE MUST** measure our problem in physical terms first. Have we the skills and have we the soils? We must reject estimates and opinions based solely upon history. If the farmers of the world were confined to the acres and the tools of their grandfathers, and had only their knowledge, we would be facing disaster. But we have a whole new set of tools and are adding to the kit every



North Dakota and South Dakota cattle people group together for picture at Miami.

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day. The level of soil productivity and farm production we are seeking will not be based on history nor on any "natural" balance. . . .

Around 2½ billion acres of soil is being used in the world with varying degrees of intensity. Production on this could be increased enormously. We are already moving in that direction. But the amount of land farmed could also be increased. Here in the United States, we could go from something under 400,000,000 to something over 450,000,000 acres, if we needed to, and at the same time retire from cultivation land not suitable in the present state of the agricultural arts.

**I**F WE take a general view of the world's land, we shall find at once that more than one-half of it is not suitable for cultivation. These are areas covered with everlasting ice and snow, the tundra, the high mountains and the deserts and semi-deserts. Large parts of the soils in the other one-half are too stony, too sandy, too hilly, too salty or too wet for cultivation under anything like present economic conditions.

It is difficult to suggest a sharp line between arable and non-arable land. That is one of the reasons that published estimates vary so widely. Another reason is that we don't have good soil maps in the undeveloped areas. But taking a set of economic conditions something like

those existing now, and assuming practices no better than those carried out by practical farmers at the present time, a figure of around 1¼ to 1½ billion acres of addition soil—over and above the 2½ billion now farmed—seems reasonable. That would be an increase in acreage of about 50 per cent. I shouldn't call this an absolute estimate. A different set of assumptions would give a different figure. If we could really go all-out in the application of science and engineering everywhere, it could probably be very much higher.

A part of this land lies north of the temperate region, in northern North America and especially in northern Eurasia. But perhaps the bulk of it lies in the sub-tropics and tropics—in Africa, South and Central America, and in the large tropical islands like Madagascar, New Guinea and Borneo. This additional land cannot be settled easily; in fact, there is very little good new land in the world simply waiting for the homesteader's plow.

**S**OMEHOW the nation got around that originally our farm soils were highly productive; that is, productive when first plowed. Many of them were, like the black lands in our Middle West and in central Eurasia, for example, and in some of the great deltas and alluvial valleys. But most soils are not. It is through liming and fertilization, drain-

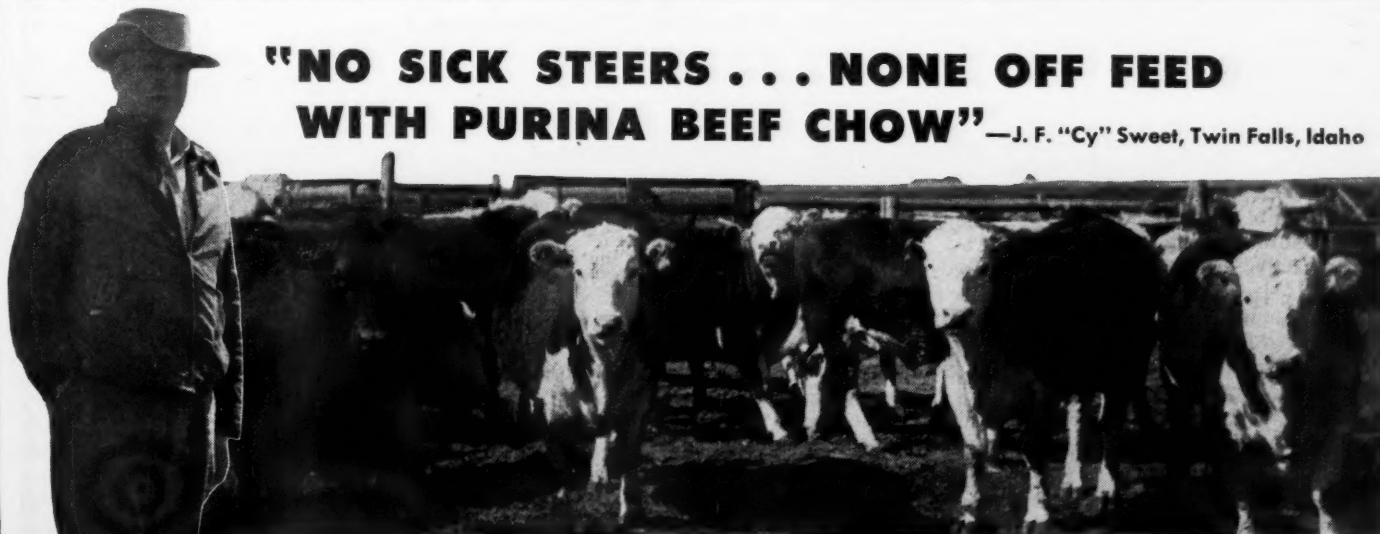
age, irrigation, the introduction of legumes and a host of other practices, that farmers have made their soils productive.

After all, this is the important thing: not the productivity when first plowed, but the response of soils to management systems. There is no more reason for saying that large areas in the tropics are without an agricultural future than there is for saying that large areas in eastern United States and western Europe are without an agricultural future, simply because one gets low yields in the absence of management practices that depend upon science and industry. Science and industry are within man's control. These things can be developed.

**H**OW CAN the farm families on these soils learn the scientific knowledge and apply it in making their decision?

First of all, each of these farms sits in a social environment that limits the choices. A farm family, for example, in an undeveloped country with no fertilizer—no industry to make it, no money to buy it and no transport to carry it—cannot decide on a system of farming involving fertilizers. . . . Within the physical limitations of soil and climate and within the economic limitations of his community, the farmer decides what to do on the basis of what he knows and according to what seems best for his

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A Nebraska group assembled for the cameraman at the Florida meeting

family. Most farmers are conservative, necessarily. Very few of them can risk the welfare of their families or their villages on an uncertain innovation. They are inclined to follow the tried practices of the past. It is this basis for decisions that must be expanded with knowledge and methods developed elsewhere.

The ways in which the new knowledge and technology are introduced in the various kinds of farm communities all over the world are as important as the scientific correctness of the technology itself. And when we do achieve an efficient agriculture, the pattern will vary a lot from one place to another. Farm management practices that are good in one place can be ruinous on another soil type.

How can the world have an efficient agriculture, soon? We need to think of both long-time programs and of things that can be done right now.

**Local autonomy.** Getting back again to this fundamental matter of decisions, we need to recognize that the people in each community—each country and each district region within a country—must learn to help themselves. . . .

There is a present trend toward centralization. Some of this may be bad, but by no means all of it. Many things need to be done on a national or even an international basis for success. The re-

sults of scientific research, for example, wherever obtained, need to flow around the world. Marketing schemes and agreements to prevent ruinous prices to either farmers or consumers must have a broad basis. No one can be for decentralization or centralization in general. But we do need to do a better job of sorting out the kinds of decisions and kinds of responsibilities that are done at the various levels of government. . . .

The following might serve as a practical guide in sorting out these responsibilities: Let us do the things in a worldwide agency than can only be done there much better than in a regional or national agency; and let us do only in national agencies what can be done much better there than in state or provincial governments; and so on down the line until finally everything is left to the local community or village that can be done there as effectively, or nearly as effectively, as elsewhere.

**Advisory services.** Improved education is essential. Everyone seems to advocate it. Here again, we must avoid standardization. Of course, all men of good will hold certain eternal varieties in common. But they have different ways of thinking and of doing things. Some communities are at the highest stage of modern culture, and others are just emerging from the Stone Age. . . . The really successful

educator is concerned more with principles than with techniques. He knows that the essential result can often be obtained in a great many ways. Certainly he considers the local soil conditions, but he also considers the tools and skills at hand. He concentrates on those practices most needing improvement. He seeks out and works through the natural leaders and in the existing pattern of mores and traditions.

Above all, he doesn't fall into the common error one hears so much: "To make any improvement in agriculture in such and such a country, we must change the whole political, social and economic outlook." Maybe these things should change; but the good educator knows they won't change rapidly—not without revolution. And revolutions are a bloody business. Once started, it is impossible to predict where they will go. The liberal educator must be a gradualist. He knows how to help people in their way, not just in his. He emphasizes their good ideas and good symbols, letting the bad ideas die from neglect.

**Exchanges of knowledge** between countries can go a long way, provided full account is taken of conditions from place to place. For example, most soil management practices are specific in their adaptability. Because one works well on a soil in Java doesn't mean that it will



A sizable delegation from New Mexico lines up before the lens in Miami.



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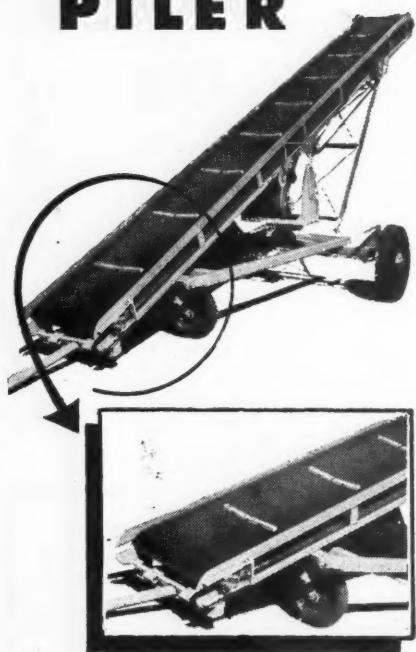
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work well on another soil in Nigeria. This is one of the reasons that the exchange of knowledge proposed under the Point Four program is difficult to arrange.

**Trade and investment.** The need for freer trade is obvious. People in undeveloped countries need to import tools and materials to make a beginning in improved farming and industry. But to buy, they must sell on a fair market. In very few strictly agricultural countries, or even regions within countries, will they have the exchange to depend upon outside trade for the bulk of the materials needed in farming. That is, without fair trade in the world, I fail to see how our agricultural goals can be reached. But trade alone is no panacea; there must be a great deal besides.

This brings up another very important factor in the success of technical assistance like that proposed under Point Four. Even with competent and successful agricultural advisors in undeveloped countries, their work may come to little unless both public and private investment in transport, electric power and industry are developed at the same time. Even if farmers are taught correctly what varieties to use, there must be a seed inspection service to see that they get these. They must have fertilizers, tools, insecticides, electric power, schools and all the things we take more or less for granted in our own country. This means investment, capital.

**Scientific research.** Certainly I don't have to emphasize the needs for agricultural research in the new and undeveloped countries of this group. Sometimes one wonders, though, if people generally (and even farmers) don't take the great achievements of research in the United States and western Europe for granted. All we need to do is to go over the detailed operations on an ordinary, successful American farm and see that nearly every practice has been changed again and again, in the direction of increased efficiency, as a direct result of scientific research.

Only a little research has been done in the great undeveloped parts of the world, especially in the tropics. Some of the knowledge gained in the temperate regions can be transferred; but by and large, the new practices and new inventions will only come out of fundamental research in agriculture carried on within the tropical regions themselves. Unfortunately, the need for immediate practical results has been so urgent that the greater need for fundamental research has been neglected. More "testing" stations will not do the job. Applied science and invention grow out of fundamental principles. These must come first. There is no reason at all to believe that tropical lands won't be as fruitful as temperate lands, once we have the principles to work with.

Here again, I have been talking in generalities. All of these are long-term needs. . . . But I should like to give you a few examples of things that could be

done immediately if people and governments really wanted to do them.

(1) Fertilizer manufacture and distribution could be expanded enormously, with large and immediate effects on crop production. FAO has just published a new thick bulletin drawing our knowledge for this purpose together.

(2) The proved superior seeds and planting stocks could be distributed far more widely. A lot is being done in this direction, to spread the varieties that are disease resistant, drought-tolerant, and high-yielding. In places, we need more soil mapping to be able to make good recommendations.

(3) Many schemes for irrigation in promising areas could get under way right now. Fortunately, some are. The necessary soil surveys and engineering surveys can go on at the same time. These are highly technical, but the skills can be transferred to reasonably well-trained men in a short time.

(4) Some of the enormous potentialities for hydro-electric power could be developed. In Central Africa, for example, there is probably more undeveloped electric power on the Congo River alone than in the whole of the Soviet Union, developed and undeveloped. Think what this would mean to the agriculture and industry for such an area—an area with abundant resources!

(5) Many of the diseases and insects that destroy crops and livestock could be brought under control at once, in those kinds of environments where methods are already worked out. Present losses are simply enormous, not only before harvest, but after harvest, in transit and in storage.

(6) The production of agricultural machinery could be started in a great many places. A lot could be done in areas needing only simple hand tools now, in the village blacksmith shops, with a bit more material and a bit more training.

(7) A great deal can be done through the development of simple pamphlets and posters. I have seen a few excellent examples of this—but only a few.

THESE are simply a few specific examples of what could be done without any fundamental changes that I can think of.

To such a group of agriculturists, I want to re-emphasize this matter of parallel development of agriculture and industry. If one could pick out just one thing and call it the "key," where a thousand things are necessary, it would certainly be this matter of industrial development. . . .

Finally, I should like to say a bit about a few of the hazards. There are hazards—real hazards—as in any great undertaking. Some of these have been exaggerated—at least, exaggerated in relation to the potentialities.

Soil erosion has been played up for 25 years. It is an important problem in soil management, although no more important than many others that need

(Continued on Page 24)

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

## Association Notes

New officers, elected at the annual meeting, in Holbrook, of the Northern Arizona Cattle Growers Association, are: Ernest Chilson, president (succeeding Fred Turley); Harbon Heap, Tom Pollock and Noel Reynolds, vice-presidents, and Harvey Randall, secretary-treasurer (re-election). Representatives of a number of other groups were invited to attend the meeting. The program included brief addresses by several of the guests; showing of the movie, "An Important Citizen," and a foot-and-mouth film, and a description by Wm. Bourdon of the recent American National gathering at Miami.

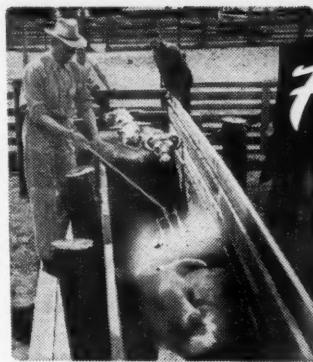
The South Dakota Stock Growers has recently asked, in a meeting of some of its members with the attorney general, for stricter enforcement of livestock ownership inspections. Noting that stockmen of the state had last year suffered \$200,000 in losses to rustlers, the group (which included the association's vice-president, John Sutton of Agar, Director E. B. Ham of Piedmont, Secretary W. M. Rasmussen of Rapid City and several other interested persons) obtained a promise that there will be more stringent enforcement of regulations in the future.

The Association of Oregon Counties and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association met some weeks ago at Burns, on invitation of O. D. Hotchkiss, head of the cattlemen's state association. The groups intend to fight jointly the proposed transfer of the Bureau of Land Management from the Interior Department to the USDA as the Hoover Commission report recommended. Those present at the conference expressed the belief that if the transfer were made, "the Taylor grazing lands would be administered by the Forest Service"—a possibility they consider highly detrimental to the livestock industry of Oregon.

Directors of the South Dakota Stock Growers Association recently voted to take out eight memberships in the United States Livestock Sanitary Association which concerns itself with livestock health and sanitary matters. While the organization is largely made up of veterinarians, stockmen are invited to join. The next meeting will be held in Phoenix, Ariz., Nov. 1-3.

Information from the state associations which now have the industry's sound and technicolor movie called "All Flesh Is Grass," is that the picture is in big demand, some of the holders of the film having it already booked for more than a solid year. Some 30 or 40 of these films are now blanketing the country, and if you haven't seen this 30-minute reel you should see it.

March, 1950

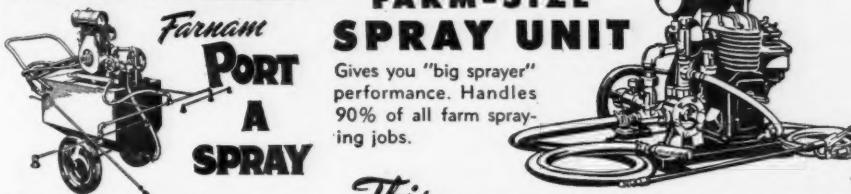


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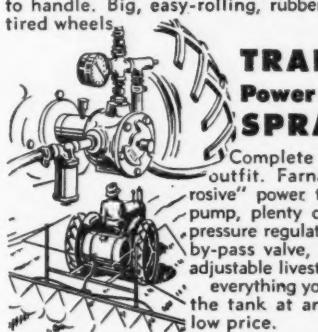
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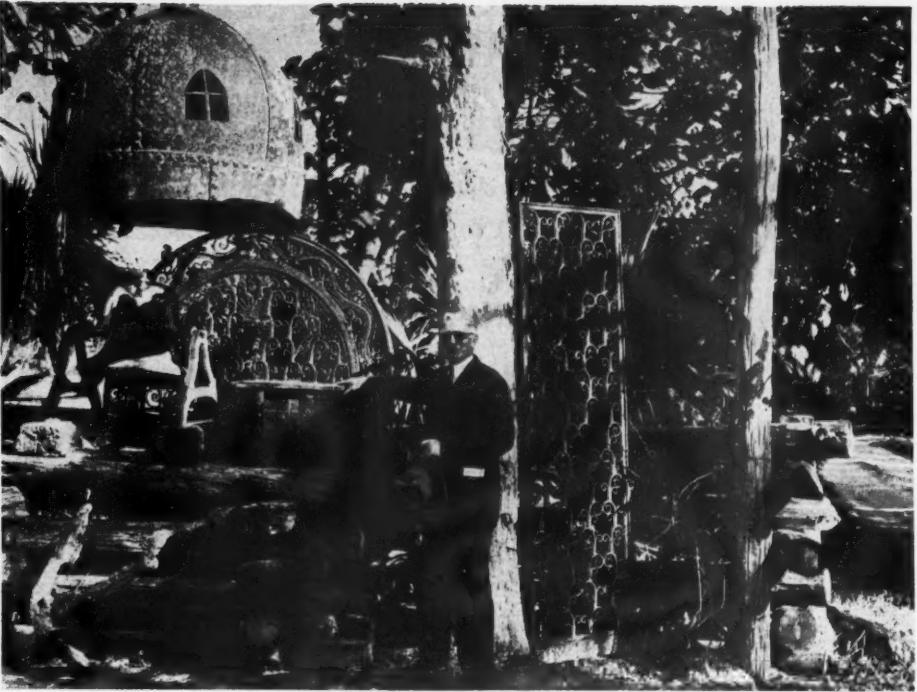
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A. A. Smith of Sterling, Colo., immediate past president of the American National Live Stock Association, standing at the entrance of the Driftwood Hotel at Vero Beach, Fla., which he and Mrs. Smith visited following the Miami convention. Mr. Smith has his hand on Henry Morgan's pirate chest. The grillwork back of the chest came from the Bath & Tennis Club in Palm Beach, and was saved from a junk yard where it was just about to be chopped into bits so it could be shipped on a lower freight rate. The bell in the picture was rescued from a junk yard also (originally, it came from a Baptist church) and the lamp shown was made out of a buoy from Panama City, where the same Henry Morgan of pirate fame operated.

Two hundred twenty-five persons gathered in Ellensburg, Wash., on Feb. 15 for the annual meeting and banquet of the Kittitas County Cattlemen's Association. Harold Hull was elected president to succeed Howard Thomas, who is retiring from the board.

Speakers included Ernest Meyers of Outlook, a commercial feeder and producer; R. L. Rutter, Jr., president of the state cattle association, who is also a state senator; Alan Rogers, chairman of the finance committee of the American National Live Stock Association, who

outlined the activities of the national association convention in Miami, and stressed the organization's stand against the dangers of socialism in this nation, and Dr. M. D. Barnes, head of the state division of dairy and livestock.

Mr. Thomas, the retiring president, in his report on 1949 accomplishments of the association, stated that its sponsorship of calfhood vaccination for Bang's disease control is largely responsible for a 50 per cent increase in the number of calves vaccinated in the county in comparison with 1948.

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Other accomplishments include the negotiation of a medical-surgical group insurance contract to take care of major injuries and illnesses of the membership, and more understanding relations with the sportsmen and the game department through committee contact with these groups.

A committee was named to head a planned study of various phases of the beef cattle industry.

Prizes contributed by local merchants included a saddle as top door prize. The film "All Flesh is Grass" was shown at the close of the meeting.—NORAH KING.

Colorado's joint forest advisory board at a meeting in Denver in January asked that cancellation of permits for use of forest grazing lands be halted until a formula for measuring grass cover could be developed and urged that the Forest Service consider the economic aspect of permit reductions. They cited research that showed 200 head of cattle as a minimum economic unit and said that 90 per cent of forest permittees are at or below this level, so further cuts would put individual stockmen below the operating minimum and out of business. The stockmen heard a talk by Edward P. Cliff, new regional forest supervisor. Co-chairmen of the meeting were George Bailey, Walden, Colo., representing sheepmen, and J. O. Cooper, Nucla, Colo., representing the cattlemen.

The 80th anniversary meeting of the Bent-Powers Cattle and Horse Growers Association swung into action on Feb. 22 with a lively parade of the town of Lamar, Colo., after which the stockmen settled down to the business of the convention. They re-elected all their officers: George McClave of McClave, Colo., president; Kelly Jackson of Eads, vice-president; A. S. Dean, Las Animas, treasurer; A. C. Woods, Eads, assistant treasurer; G. W. Sweitzer, Lamar, secretary; Jim Herbert, Springfield, assistant secretary.

The speeches scheduled for this Washington's-birthday meeting were made by Loren C. Bamert of Ione, Calif., the new president of the American National; Henry Bledsoe of Cheraw, president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association; W. E. Morgan, head of Colorado A&M College, Fort Collins; David Rice, secretary of the Colorado Cattlemen, and Rad Hall, assistant executive secretary of the American National.

The future for southern cattlemen and the problems that have beset livestock producers in all parts of the country held the attention of some 350 members who were drawn to the mid-January meeting of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association at Huntsville.

The eight-year-old organization endorsed the report and recommendations of the Hoover Commission and bitterly attacked government policies and attitudes, particularly with respect to deficit spending. Committees were appointed to work, respectively, on screwworm

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control and to cooperate in research with the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

Elected to office for the coming year were: O. J. Henley of Tuscaloosa, succeeding W. H. Smith of Prattville; J. E. Lambert of Darlington, first vice-president; Mack Maples of Elkmont, second vice-president. J. E. Moreno of Montgomery is the association's secretary. In making his report to the convention, Mr. Moreno brought out the fact that the membership rolls now carry 750 persons and that interest in the work of the group is state-wide and constantly increasing.

Among speakers programmed for the meeting were: H. M. Newell, assistant director of agricultural research, Swift & Company, Chicago; Harry E. Reed, director of the livestock branch of the USDA at Washington; Dr. H. R. Smith, manager of the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board, Chicago; Fred Stewart, superintendent of the Belle Mina Substation; J. L. Lawson, assistant director of the API Extension Service, and Dr. E. V. Smith of the college of agriculture at Auburn.

The convention included a series of tours to enable the stockmen to see winter grazing, pastures, Angus and Hereford herds and the experiment station.

The Alabamans will hold their 1951 convention in Montgomery.

The Northwest Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, which was founded in 1945, has held two meetings in the Panhandle section of the state—one at Guymon and the other at Boise City. George C. Crouse of Oklahoma City, director of the brand registry division of the Oklahoma state board of agriculture, was guest speaker at both sessions, explaining the new state brand law. Others appearing on the programs were Ralph Barby, LaVerne, president of the association; Charles Gardner, Woodward, past president and a member of the board of directors (both these men are members of the American National executive committee), and John Chenoweth, Jr. The association re-elected Henry C. Hitch to the board of directors (a post he has held since the association was organized) and has named George Skelley of Boise City to a directorship. Two more meetings were booked for the group—one at Fairview, the other at Beaver. The same type of program is being employed at each of the assemblies.

The 1950 officers, as named at the Feb. 6 convention of the Virginia Beef Cattle Producers Association in Richmond, are: A. W. Buhrman, Richmond, president; Harry C. Stuart, Elk Garden, vice-president; W. T. Reed, Jr., Richmond, treasurer; Allen K. Randolph, Keene, executive secretary.

Speakers included Dr. Wilson B. Bell, Dr. R. L. Booth, Dr. R. E. Blaser, Dr. Geo. K. Davis, Robert C. Carter and Thomas C. Boushall.

The meeting was attended by Radford Hall of Denver, assistant executive secretary of the American National.

The Gilpin-Jefferson Livestock Association held its annual meeting at Golden, Colo., Feb. 11, and re-elected Dr. Kenneth L. Green president and George White secretary. Joe Davis was elected vice-president; Paul White and John Pearce were appointed to the forest advisory board. All the organization's directors were re-elected.

Speakers at the meeting were Dr. M. W. Riemenschneider, Colorado state veterinarian; Dave Rice, secretary of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and Rad Hall, assistant executive secretary

of the American National. Dr. Riemenschneider spoke on the new Bang's control law and the opinion concerning it which has been handed down by the state attorney general; according to this, after Jan. 1, 1951, all heifer calves over 6 months of age must be vaccinated before they reach the age of 15 months. Mr. Rice explained the program of the Colorado Cattlemen, and Mr. Hall's address concerned itself with the policy of the American National as established by the resolutions adopted at the Miami convention.

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## Our New Mid-Month Publication

Members of the American National Live Stock Association will start, in mid-March, to receive the **COW BUSINESS**, a monthly bulletin which will bring them complete information about feed, up-to-the-minute marketing data, price items and a discussion of all current problems pertaining to the livestock industry. The bulletin will be in the nature of an informal communication that will keep members posted in the interim between publication dates of the **AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER**.

The executive committee of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association recently endorsed Governor Val Peterson's highway program in the form of a resolution stressing the need for good roads in modern ranching operations. It called on members to vote approval of a gasoline tax boost and higher license fees at the polls in November to implement the construction of heavier highways.

Newest affiliate of the American National Live Stock Association is the Ware County Cattlemen's Association, headquartered at Waycross, Ga. President of the group is E. C. Hall of Waycross, and the secretary is C. L. Blalock. The 16-month-old organization held a business meeting on Jan. 18; at that time the membership numbered well above 100 persons.

Skagit County, Washington, cattlemen organized an association at a meeting just before the turn of the year. Fred Martin of Rockport was named president; Art Ward of Sedro-Woolley, vice-president, and Fred Butler of Burling-

ton, secretary-treasurer.

The Washington Cattlemen's Association has set for a goal in 1950 a membership of 2,250 individuals—and, writes W. L. Rumburg, secretary, in the association's news letter, "The Lariat," "we know we can do it." . . . The association also is suggesting a plan to help finance the association that calls for 1 cent per head deduction on cattle sold by packers, terminal markets, commission men and auction sales yards. The association's county officers are contacting the organizations to get the plan into operation.

West Divide Creek Livestock Association members meeting at Silt, Colo., recently elected Joe Schideler president, Kan McPherson vice-president, and C. G. Deardorff secretary-treasurer. The association praised Claude Rees of Glenwood Springs for his effort to work out a program of cooperation with the Forest Service on the West Divide allotment.

In Utah the members of the Spring City and Chester Cattlemen's Association have elected Vivian Larsen to the presidency. Royal Allred was elected vice-president; Henry Blain secretary-treasurer, and Rawlin Bagnall, James R. Watson and Cyrus E. Allred, advisory board members.

Horace Bozarth of Mansfield, Wash., was elected president for 1950 of the Douglas County Cattlemen's Association at a meeting some time ago at Mansfield.

Meeting at Santa Rosa, the New Mexico Livestock Protective Association on Jan. 14 re-elected its incumbent officers: John L. Hicks, president; Wm. R. Thompson, vice-president; A. J. Irwin, secretary - treasurer. Messrs. Hicks, Thompson, Irwin, and Tom Acord, Eugene Perez, N. W. York and B. F. Walker were renamed members of the board of directors. The secretary reported arrangements for all association members to get their spraying and parasite control materials from a local firm which has agreed to furnish these at cost plus 10 per cent for handling.

### Soil Potential

(From P. 20)

equal emphasis. Generally, erosion is a symptom, not the cause, of declining soil fertility and bad management. We must get back of those symptoms. When we do, we usually find weak plant cover and declining soil fertility. Then we must discover why these things happen. Often the real causes stem from unstable economic conditions, bad systems of land

tenure, sharply up-and-down prices, over-crowding, poverty, disease and wars.

But we shouldn't get panicky over the extreme statements about soil depletion. Farmers can and should use better soil-building systems. But we are not facing any calamity because of soil erosion. If we direct our efforts toward sustained production under efficient systems of farming, we shall have not only soil conservation, but far more than that. And sustained production has in it a large number of essentials—all of the modern methods of agriculture—and, above all, the full use of the labor and genius of rural people in effective work. We must avoid exaggerating any one factor, like erosion, else our agricultural programs could become so distorted that we shall fail to meet our food requirements and even worsen the symptom itself.

Some raise this question: Will not the population increase so fast that the race with the food supply is a hopeless one? Doubtless the mere shipping of food to crowded countries, except on an emergency basis, would fail to give permanent benefits. Generally, each country must develop its own resources. Even the first effects of improved agriculture and industry might be an increase in population. But we must look beyond these. History shows that when the standards of living rise, and people have something to look forward to, they marry later and plan their families. Then the birth rate declines.

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**\$66**  
DELIVERED  
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**STURDIEST, BEST DESIGNED  
STEEL GUARD EVER OFFERED**

• WILL LAST A LIFETIME!

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Measures 6-ft. by 12-ft. Heavy, All-Steel sectional top (4-inch squares) is RIGIDLY WELDED TO SIX strong 4-inch galvanized Eye-beams. Weighs about 700 lbs.

**Recommended by leading ranchers!**

New design keeps stock from crossing, but permits vehicles to cross at full highway speed without noise or bumps. Easily supports heaviest truckloads. Sold on a money-back guarantee.

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**Colorado**  
**Bulls**

**85 Sell—Lamont Pavilion**  
**DENVER, MARCH 27**

List of Consignors—1950 Range Bull Sale

**COLORADO HEREFORD ASSOCIATION**

Bohlender Bros., LaSalle  
DeBerard Cattle Co., Kremmling  
DeBerard, Fred C., Kremmling  
Deines & Larson, Loveland & Ft. Collins  
Downing Herefords, Boulder  
Eastin, Henry P., Kremmling  
Field, F. A. & Sons, Parshall  
Fisher, Redwood, Granby  
JP Hereford Ranch, Parlin  
Lashbrook & Son, Gunnison  
Lindsay, George W., Denver  
Macy, Robert H., Center  
Norell Herefords, Collbran  
Peterson, Frank A., Ault  
Platte Canyon Ranch, Littleton  
Rehfeld Herefords, Holyoke  
Rich, Clayton, Jr., Coalmont  
Ross, W. J., Steamboat Springs  
San Isabel Ranch (Kettle Cattle)  
Westcliffe and Littleton  
Seedorf, Ray A., Yuma  
Vanotti, Steve & Sons, Walsenburg

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P. O. Box 6511, Stockyards Station  
Denver 16, Colorado  
Col. Fred Chandler, Auctioneer  
Stow L. Witwer, Manager

## American National Committees Map Out Coming Year's Work

President Loren Bamert called a meeting in Denver, Feb. 17-18, of the general council of the American National Association. The council is composed of the presidents of the 19 state associations affiliated with the National. In the course of the meeting of the group, which will serve this year as the association's public relations committee, a good portion of the time was devoted to a discussion of the department's program for 1950.

Brought out in the meeting was the fact that the 31 copies of the film "All Flesh Is Grass" have not been sufficient to meet the demand (a number have been sold and inquiries with a view to further sales are on file); eight additional copies have been ordered and authorization was given also for the purchase of a black and white film for television purposes.

\* \* \*

The finance committee of the American National met simultaneously with the general council at Denver, under the chairmanship of Alan Rogers of Ellensburg, Wash. The two groups held a joint session, out of which came the decision for the association to issue a monthly circular between the first-of-the-month issues of the PRODUCER; the bulletin will be called "Cow Business."

A vigorous campaign for increasing the association's membership was outlined in the finance meeting. This will consist of a stepped-up mail solicitation program and the pressing of a personal campaign in the finance committeemen's respective states. The expansion of field representation was also recommended.

## Prominent Easterners On Livestock Tour

DENVER area ranchers and business men discussed livestock industry problems with a group of eastern editors, educators and public officials at a reception and dinner in the Brown Palace Hotel, Feb. 28. The group is making an on-the-scene view of winter livestock operations in eight states as guests of Armour and Company.

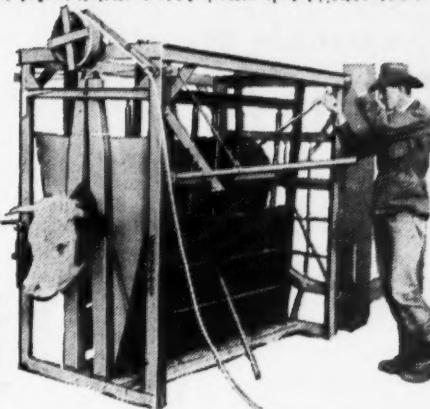
"We are giving key leaders of thought from the East a chance to observe and discuss livestock production and its problems with typical producers on their home grounds," declared Col. E. N. Wentworth of Armour's Livestock Bureau. "Our hope is to promote better understanding of the livestock and meat industry among consumers."

Represented on the tour are: North American Newspaper Alliance; Time and Life magazines; Atlanta Constitution; American Agriculturist; Boston markets; U. S. Chamber of Commerce agricultural department; Christian Science Monitor; First National Stores;

**SAFEST For Animals!** **FASTESt of All to Use!** **EASIEST To Operate!**



**Designed by Cattlemen!** Built to their specifications! Backed by 15 years experience operating and building chutes! Every construction and operating feature demanded by them incorporated in this new safer, faster, one-man chute.



**Here at Last!** is a squeeze chute that completely restrains any size animal from weanling calf to the toughest range steer with absolute safety for both animal and operator! One man easily catches, holds and treats animals without help; or with help handles more head per hour

with less man power. All this is made possible by new-type "No Choke" neck yoke, Fast-Action rear gate, "Double-Action" side squeezes, "Rope-Drum" pulley operation with Automatic Ratchet Latch, and a host of other advanced features. Use coupon below to get full information.

### GET THE FACTS About This Chute Before You Buy!

Here's a chute that gives you all the features you've always wanted, plus construction that animals can't damage, at a price that's right. Mail coupon for complete information and "10-Day Trial Offer."

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OMAHA, NEBRASKA OR PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Send complete information on "One-Man" Stock Chute and 10-Day Trial Offer.

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**MONEY-MAKING BEAR CLAWS — MAKE 'EM YOUR FIRST CHOICE AND YOU'LL COME BACK FOR MORE.**

**BEAR CLAW**

MRS. J. C. MORRILL, Owner

R. E. LEONE, Manager

DAYTON, WYOMING

**REGISTERED  
HEREFORDS  
ARABIAN HORSES**



**RANCH**

## Help Yourself!

Sounds like something free, doesn't it? Funny thing, it really is! It's what you get extra when you use WHR blood.

It helps you produce better cattle.

**Wyoming Hereford Ranch**

**Cheyenne**

Museum of Science and Industry; Agricultural Research Administration; NBC; Chicago Tribune; U. S. News; Purdue

University; Gannett Newspapers; Saturday Evening Post; Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.



# LADIES' CHOICE



## Through a RANCH HOUSE WINDOW

If it's true that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world"—and who are we to deny it?—then it's to be hoped that the Special Resolution featured on the cover of the February PRODUCER has been clipped and tacked up somewhere in the kitchen of every CowBelle. To be read and re-read. To be thought about and remembered.

We could well make that brief fourth paragraph a Litany of Freedom. "Government produces nothing and has no means by which to support false and destructive theories except by exacting from its citizens the fruits of their labors." So said our menfolks in convention assembled at Miami in January, and so should say we all!

Democracy, like all the fine gifts of life—love, honor, health and wisdom—is not a gift with which we are at once and forever endowed. Perhaps most of all, democracy needs to be worked for and deserved and treasured. We're so often threatened by its loss, not alone by the knave and the dishonest man but quite as often by the dreamer, the mountebank and the fool.

Let's guard it well, so that our sons may have the opportunity to grow up to be strong, self-reliant, independent men like their dads.

\* \* \*

Blooms as tender a blue as the pale spring sky soften the dark hills around the Ranch House this month. It seems hardly possible that the Ladies' Choice pages, heralded by our editor, Mr. Appleton, as "a brave new venture of the PRODUCER," will be two years old next month. Sometimes I fear we've failed to live up to some of those fine first dreams, but we're still growing. Each year will be better, I'm sure. Perhaps it's only by striving after the dreams we never quite have time to realize that we do grow. I want these pages to be whatever you CowBelles want them to be. I

guess you'll have to help me make them so.

That first time, I remember, I wrote of the first shy brush of wild lilac blue across the hills that spring of our bitter drouth. Again, for the second time since then, my world is lovely with their blooming. And although my husband scowls at the brushed-over slopes and mutters—quite rightly, I expect—that they are "worthless," still to me they epitomize spring.

To paraphrase the old verse, "I love any color so long as it's red," I love any flower so long as it's blue. And though a hillside blue with lilac may be worthless from a practical viewpoint, it's a satisfying meal for the beauty-hungry heart.

It's lucky that most of the brush is not so lovely, isn't it? Or else we might find ourselves half-agreeing with those agencies who would gladly see our tens of millions of acres given over to brushlands . . . if it kept the cattle off!

Like most of the harsher aspects of life, the drouths of the past few years have not been without their more encouraging features. At least they have served to focus the attention of the country upon our water problem. When a city the size of New York misses a few baths, the whole of America becomes suddenly water - conservation - conscious. We're reminded that water is our cheapest—and one of our most irreplaceable—natural resources. No wonder it has become a matter of national concern.

Perhaps next thing we know the cattleman will not stand so alone in his belief—his proven belief—that grasslands rather than brushed-over hills are the truly moisture - conserving watersheds. Perhaps . . . We can hope so.

\* \* \*

For those who knew E. L. Garthwaite, county agent of Madera County and an outstanding leader in the brush burning

control methods in California, it seems especially fitting that just prior to his untimely death he had the satisfaction of reporting on the entirely successful cooperative burning of the 3,500 acres in the O'Neals Community project, the largest and most successful controlled burn so far in this state.

When fat cattle graze the land where once bull pines and brush abounded, when the streams run free again, the good earth itself will be a natural memorial to one who fought the battle for controlled burning so gallantly.

Perhaps the best last word on this is a direct quote from Mr. Garthwaite's article, published after his death in the California Cultivator. "Measurements by Dr. Harold Biswell showed an immediate and remarkable increase in the flow of springs in the area of Fine Gold Creek, which runs through this burn. This should be of interest to water-conscious people of California—and elsewhere."

Indeed it should . . . to all Americans, everywhere!

## At Home on the Range

Well, this is what I like to see! My remarks on the various ways that humble meat, hamburger, could be prepared inspired a reader to send me two very different ways it's served in other lands. I'm only sorry that she did not include her name, so I could give her credit. At any rate, I want her to know that I appreciate the recipes quite as much as I'm sure her fellow CowBelles will appreciate these two unusual meat ball dishes when they serve them.

Again thanks, dear unknown contributor. I only hope your example inspires some other CowBelles to "go thou and do likewise."

### ALBONDIGOS

(Spanish Meat Balls)

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 cup bread, not too fresh
- 1 beaten egg
- 1 can tomato soup or Spanish sauce
- 2 tbsp. butter



Cattlemen and cattlewomen of Arizona at Miami

1 can chicken soup or 1 cupful of stock  
1 tbsp. chopped onion  
1 tbsp. chopped green pepper  
1 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. ground oregano  
Pepper and paprika

**METHOD:** Mix meat, bread which has been moistened with water (but not wet), onion, green pepper, seasonings and egg. Flour hands and form into tiny balls about the size of a walnut. Put butter into a kettle, add green pepper and onion, saute a few minutes. Add tomato soup or Spanish sauce, cook a few minutes longer before adding chicken soup or stock. When boiling, drop in the meat balls. Boil very slowly for 1 1/2 hours, adding a little more water if necessary to keep meat balls covered.

Serve in a border of hot boiled rice. This is a real meat stretcher, as it will serve six people.

#### BITKI

(Russian Meat Balls)

1/2 loaf white bread	Nutmeg
Milk	2 tbsp. butter
1/2 lb. chopped beef or veal	2 onions
	1/4 cup sour cream

**METHOD:** Discard the crust of the bread (or dry it to be rolled into crumbs). Put the soft part of the loaf into milk, as much as it will absorb, and let stand for 15 minutes. Press out excess milk with the hands, mix the bread with the meat, add salt and pepper and the tiniest

## Home Hobbies

### Green Gardens

Have you ever wanted green plants for decorating your rooms in the winter months? There is no need to spend a lot of money to have lovely green plants. All you need to do is cut a few tops off of carrots, about 1 inch of the top. Take a shallow dish about 4 or 5 inches in diameter and some sand pebbles or very tiny stones. Center your carrot tops in the dish, add pebbles and enough water to cover almost to top of carrots. Place in a dark place for two or three days until the tops start to grow. Gradually bring the plant into daylight. (You can use beet tops, cabbage sprouts or practically any plant having an edible root. They will last through the winter and in the spring can be planted out if you wish. This also is an ideal way for children to experiment and study plant growth and life.) Be sure at all times to have enough water so your plants will not dry out. As the plants grow, you will see the roots filling the dish.

If you want to be artistic, you can build sand dunes or marshes. Top your dunes with tiny starfish, shells and birds, marshes with birds and hunters and boats. For other scenes, you will need larger, shallow dishes according to what scenes you want to depict.—LILLIAN HOLMES.

possible dash of nutmeg. Form into round cakes and fry in the butter along with finely sliced onions. When meat and onions are nicely browned, add the sour cream. Let bubble up once or twice and serve with the sauce poured over the meat. If the cream is not sour enough, add the juice of half a lemon.

This is another meat-stretcher, for it makes four big patties. Not that I recommend stretching meat ordinarily—what CowBelle should?—but it is a help to have a few such methods in reserve when our menfolks are slow at getting started with the butchering . . . or the locker is nearly empty . . . and unexpected company drops in at the end of a busy day just about the time we've decided, "Oh, well, the family won't mind hamburgers just this one more time."

And so . . . good eating . . . and good evening.

D. L. McD.

## CowBelle Notes

In California, 60 members of the CowBelles of Kern and Tulare counties met for a luncheon on Feb. 11 in Bakersfield, with Mrs. Freeland Farnsworth and Mrs. S. Ward Woody presiding alternately. Tables were appropriately decorated in the valentine motif by Mrs. Gertrude Reyes.

The American National's public relations picture "All Flesh Is Grass" was shown by Jim Beagle, secretary of the Kern County Cattlemen's Association. The two CowBelle units have joined with the cattlemen of the two counties to purchase this film and plan to show it to various organizations.

Mrs. John Guthrie showed interesting colored slides taken during the trip to the American National convention in Florida.

The Northern Arizona CowBelles held their annual meeting recently, coincidental with the cattlemen's convention at Holbrook. Margaret Bourdon was succeeded in the presidency by Wilma Turley; Georgiana Spurlock was named first vice-president; Marjorie Stiles, second vice-president; Pearl Willis, secretary-treasurer; Fay Jensen, auditor, and Mildred Brown, recorder.

Mrs. Seth Burstedt of Challis, Idaho, president of her state's Cow-Belle organization, reports that plans are really in full swing for the March 27-28 meeting of that auxiliary group, the same time as the convention of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association. Mrs. Amos Eckert of Boise, the chairman of the convention committee, presided over a meeting at the home of Mrs. Leon Weeks, wife of the secretary of the state cattlemen, to work out preliminary arrangements. A luncheon the first day, a tea the second day, door prizes, flowers, etc., are in store for the ladies who attend.

The cover picture was taken during the Idaho Cattlemen's Association 1948 cattle tour . . . on Dr. H. B. Rigby's ranch near Rexburg, Ida.

## Census To Be Huge Chore

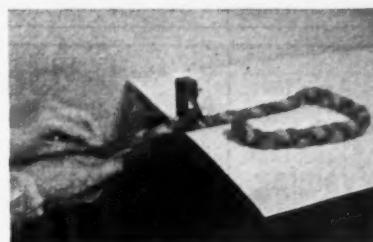
Farmers are going to be asked so many questions in the upcoming 10-year census that, to expedite the undertaking, the government will mail forms to farmers in most states ahead of the house-to-house workers, who will pick up the filled-out blanks when they make their calls. The farm survey is expected to be the biggest part of the job because of the large distances to be covered and the great amount of information to be taken.

## BIG-GAME "TAKE" INCREASED ON NATIONAL FORESTS IN 1949

Approximately 5,000,000 people used national forest lands for hunting, fishing and trapping during 1949, the USDA announces. During that fiscal year one out of every four big-game hunters on the national forests got his quarry. It is estimated that 1,210,000 hunters bagged 318,000 animals, as compared with the 279,000 animals taken by about the same number of people in 1948.

### STOP LOOKING

For a Hitching Post for  
YOUR RUG BRAID!



Our clamp fits any table, chair arm, or window sill. Simply slip braid into clamp and as braid progresses slide it backward. Completely automatic jaws require no adjustment. Holds any size braid securely. Weighs only 4 ounces, measures only 4 inches.

### National Needle Co. Hill, N. H.

Please send me Rug Clamp, postage paid, for which I enclose one dollar:

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City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

## ELECTRIFY YOUR OLD SEWING MACHINE

For \$16.75. Free Sewing Machine  
Light Included

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NEW ENGLAND Handcrafts and Antiques. Postpaid anywhere in the U. S. Descriptive folder. The Hobby Shop, 416 North Washington St., North Attleboro, Mass.

SEND RAW WOOL direct to factory for fine blankets. Free literature. West Texas Woolen Mills, 407 Main, Eldorado, Texas.

TREASURE YOUR WOOL. Have it made into fine blankets, coverlets, comfort battings. Old battings renewed. Write McKay Woolen Mills, New Bremen, Ohio.

5 GIANT TOY ANIMALS—All for \$1.00 postpaid. A terrific gift item. Shribers, 1822 Center Ave., Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.

# SALES

March  
27  
Colorado

## COLORADO HEREFORD RANGE BULL SALE

Individuals and Groups  
Union Stock Yards — Denver, Colo. — Monday, March 27  
Colorado Hereford Association, P. O. Box 6511, Denver, Colo.

March  
27  
Oregon

## 30 Bulls — Aberdeen-Angus — 35 Females Klamath Falls County Fair Grounds KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

Show, Sun., March 26th Write John H. Connor, P. O. Box 905,  
Sale, Mon., March 27th, 12:00 Noon Modesto, Calif., for Catalogues

March  
31  
Montana

## MONTANA HEREFORD ASSOCIATION SHOW WINDOW SALE BOZEMAN, MONT., MARCH 31

60 Head, Herd Sire Prospects, Replacement Females,  
Superior Range Bulls

April  
3  
Wyoming

## John E. Rice Sale

### 70 Polled Hereford Herd Bulls for the Range

Sons and grandsons of Plato Domino 36th, the same quality and breeding as the  
Polled Herefords that won 6th in the Denver Carlot bull show and sold at the  
3rd highest average.

Sale at the Ranch — Sheridan, Wyo. — April 3

June  
12  
Wyoming

## BEAR CLAW RANCH

Annual Sale — Registered Herefords

DAYTON, WYO. — JUNE 12

Mrs. J. C. Morrill, Owner

R. E. Leone, Mgr.

### AMERICAN MILKING SHORTHORN SOCIETY MOVES OFFICES

The American Milking Shorthorn Society is moving its national headquarters, after many years at Chicago, to Springfield, Mo., where a new building is nearing completion. Plans are being made for the dedication ceremony and a "Dedication Sale," to be held April 24-25 in the new, more centrally placed location.

### MAGAZINE FEATURES MONTANA HEREFORDS

Registered Hereford cattle and the role they play as a Montana industry form the subject of a seven-page pictorial section in the March Montana Treasure magazine, the Montana Hereford Association reports.

The industrial report traces developments that have made Montana the fifth ranking registered Hereford producing state. The pictorial presenta-

tion gives attention to people in the industry, some of Montana's champion steers and Hereford marketing methods. Special attention, Herb Jillson, association field secretary, said, is given to the Montana Winter Fair to be held in Bozeman the last week of March and the Hereford Congress to be held in Great Falls May 12-13. A heifer calf, sired by the \$15,000 1948 Tri-State Hereford Futurity champion, is the magazine's March "cover girl."

### FIRST OREGON ASSN. BULL SALE

About a thousand persons jammed the sales pavilion of the Ontario (Oregon) Livestock Commission sales yard, Feb. 18, on the occasion of the first annual range bull sale sponsored by the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. Twenty-three breeders in the state had consigned 78 bulls, which attracted very active bidding during the two-day show and sale. The grand champion of the show belonged to Herbert Chandler of John Day

and was bought by J. H. Tippett of Enterprise for \$1,200. Roy Robinson was consignor of the reserve champion, which was bought by Frank Hill of Weiser, Ida., for \$1,050. Highest price chalked up in the event was paid by Ted and Mildred Graves for an animal shown by the Double M Hereford Ranch; it brought \$1,250. The 78 bulls brought \$39,730, for a \$509 average; there were 74 Herefords and 4 Angus.

### ANGUS ASSN. NAMES TWO MEN

Hubert E. Claybrooke of Franklin, Me., and Walter H. Smith of Walla Walla, Wash., have joined the staff of the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders Association. Making their headquarters in Chicago, both the men will assist with field work and other activities of this national breed association.

### NATIONAL BRAHMAN GROUP NAMES OFFICERS FOR 1950

Herman Taylor of Natchitoches, La., has been re-elected president of the American Brahman Breeders Association. R. G. Herrmann of Ocala, Fla., was re-elected vice-president. Other officers are: Paul Cornelius, Coleville, Calif., second vice-president; Matt Baird, Tucson, Ariz., third vice-president, and A. P. George, Richmond, Tex., treasurer. New directors at large include Henry O. Partin of Kissimmee, Fla., and Santiago Perez, Havana, Cuba.

### ANGUS BREED GROUP GROWS

The American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders Association says the first four months of the 1950 fiscal year for the organization have been marked by gains in registrations (a 26.21 per cent advance); transfers (increased 25.18 per cent), and new members (729 new breeders have been issued memberships to date, as compared with 611 in a similar period last year.)

### NEW ANGUS SHOW AT OMAHA

The first National Aberdeen-Angus Rancher and Breeder Show has been announced in conjunction with the 1950 Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show at Omaha, Nebr. Harry B. Coffee, chairman of the Ak-Sar-Ben, states that completion of the show's new \$1,000,000 livestock building with its additional stabling has made it possible to restore purebred exhibits without necessitating the curtailment of any of the 4-H exhibits.

### MONTANA TO HOLD HEREFORD CONGRESS IN MAY

The Montana Hereford Association will sponsor a Hereford Congress on May 12-13 at Great Falls. The event is to include a series of panel discussions, talks and question periods on size and type, management and registered Hereford marketing.

Bob Lazear, manager of the Wyoming Hereford Ranch at Cheyenne, Wyo., will moderate a discussion on registered Hereford cattle.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

In the size-and-type sessions on the 12th, a group of well-known men has been invited to serve on the panel. Included are Albert K. Mitchell of Albert, N. M., past president of the American National and widely respected in the livestock world; Herbert Chandler of Baker, Ore.; Dr. A. D. Weber of Kansas State College, Manhattan; Dr. R. T. Clark of the government service at Denver, who will speak on beef cattle improvement; Louis Hablas, buyer for Armour & Company at West Fargo, N. D.; Charles Redd, LaSal, Utah, stockman; Fred S. Willson of Montana State College, Bozeman; Warren Monfort, commercial feeder of Greeley, Colo.; Allen Feeney, Milky Way Hereford Ranch, Phoenix, Ariz.; M. C. Simpson, president of the Montana Stockgrowers, Volborg; Harvey McDougal of Fontana Farms, Collinsville, Calif.

Invitations have also been issued to a group of widely recognized men to participate in a discussion of herd and ranch management. Among them, besides Messrs. Lazear and Mitchell, are William Spidel of the Roberts Loan & Cattle Company, Roundup, Mont., and Lyman Brewster, commercial rancher of Birney, Mont.

#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND HONORS NATIONAL ANGUS SECRETARY

A \$300 annual Frank Richards scholarship has been established at the University of Missouri, Columbia, in honor of the secretary of the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders Association. The scholarship has been set up by Paul Gafe, construction company official of Los Angeles who breeds Angus cattle at Santa Paula. The award will go each year to a junior student in the college of agriculture on the basis of financial need, character, scholarship and participation in animal husbandry activities.

#### NEBRASKA HEREFORD SHOW

The Nebraska Hereford Association has announced plans for the first state Hereford show, to be held at North Platte, Oct. 10-12. A premium list of \$2,000 will be provided, and the event will be open only to Nebraska breeders.

#### FLORIDA SHOWS

Norris Cattle Company of Ocala, Fla., has recently garnered a flock of show honors: At the sixth annual Ocala Brahman Show, Jan. 16, a Norris bull took the grand champion bull award. Grand champion Hereford bull of the Florida State Fair at Tampa was also a Norris animal. At this event the Norris firm also showed the grand champion Santa Gertrudis bull as well as the reserve champion. Also at this same fair, in the Brahman show, Norris was awarded the championships on a bull, a female and two reserve grand championships, besides a junior bull top place.

\* \* \*

Henry O. Partin and Sons of Kissimmee showed the junior female champion at the Brahman show in the Florida State Fair, Tampa, last month. The animal was "45th Lady Imparistre."

March, 1950

# BULLS

FOR SALE AT PRIVATE TREATY

## CHANDLER HEREFORDS

Range Bulls of Uniform Quality in Carload Lots  
Herbert Chandler  
Baker, Oregon

## ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE

Purebred and Commercial

GRASS RANGE N BAR RANCH MONTANA

## SERVICEABLE HEREFORD BULLS

Large Group to Select From

Charles Rudolph, Caldwell, Ida. No Saturday Business Phone 0188R4

## MESSERSMITH'S HEREFORDS

Have 2 coming-two bulls in our middle price pen—4 in the top pen; 28 coming-two heifers and the 49 heifer crop for sale. You'll like them and the prices.

F. E. MESSERSMITH & SONS - 623 Emerson, Alliance, Nebr.

## LIVESTOCK ADVISORY COM. REVIEWS USDA RESEARCH

PROJECTS under the Research and Marketing Act dealing with or related to the livestock industry were reviewed at a meeting in the Department of Agriculture Feb. 16-17 by the Livestock Advisory Committee which is made up of representative stockmen and members of trade groups dealing in livestock products.

The committee asked that emphasis continue to be given to research dealing with improvements in breeding beef cattle, meat type hogs, and to problems of clearing range and pasture lands of mesquite, saltcedar, scrub oak and other weeds.

Frank S. Boice, Arizona stockman and chairman of the group, urged the Agricultural Research Administration to expand livestock research to the extent funds permit, particularly in fields where the research would bring about greater efficiency in livestock production.

Those who spoke at the meeting in addition to Mr. Boice, included Under Secretary Albert J. Loveland; Dr. P. V. Cardon, administrator of ARA; Dr. B. T. Simms, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry; Dr. Hazel K. Stiebel-

ing, chief of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

In addition to Chairman Boice, members of the committee attending were Charles Bauer, president, National Association of Retail Meat and Food Dealers of Cincinnati, Ohio; Norris K. Carnes, general manager, Central Livestock Association, St. Paul, Minn.; Harry B. Coffee, Union Stockyards Co., Omaha, Nebr.; Joe B. Finley, Encinal, Texas; Wesley Hardenbergh, president American Meat Institute, Chicago; George H. Hart, head, veterinary division, University of California; P. E. Williams, Crescent Valley Ranch, Davenport, Fla., and G. N. Winder, National Wool Growers Association, Craig, Colo.

Albert K. Mitchell attended as a representative of the Agricultural Research Policy Committee. Henry W. Marston, assistant to the ARA administrator, is the executive secretary of the livestock committee.

## MAGAZINE PLANS TOUR

A tour is being planned for Apr. 10-21 by the Western Livestock Journal, which is published at Los Angeles, Calif. Complete details of the itinerary are not available at this time.

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## LEGISLATIVE NOTES

UNDER the heading of progress in Washington, we can say that a new and more satisfactory forest omnibus bill may soon emerge from Congress. The measure has already been passed by the Senate and calls for appropriation by Congress out of grazing fee money 10 cents per animal month for cattle and 2 cents for sheep and goats. The money would be used for construction and maintenance of drift fences and watering places, revegetation, and other range improvements, control of rodents and eradication of poisonous plants.

This particular part of the rewritten bill is opposed by the Forest Service. It wants the use of the money, automatically, so to speak, without the necessity of yearly appropriation of the funds by Congress.

Further amendment in the bill calls for legalization and authorization of advisory boards. The bill, which was introduced by Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, on this score calls for referral by any affected party to a local advisory board for "its advice and recommendations" of matters having to do with modification of the terms of a grazing permit. If the secretary of agriculture overrules or modifies the recommendations of the board, then the secretary must furnish his reason for such action.

A third change in the bill legalizes a 10-year permit on the forests. While this amendment does not restrict the right or interest of the United States in the land or resources, it is further evidence of the recognition of grazing as one of the basic uses of forest lands.

Representatives of the industry who were in Washington on this matter included the following members of the joint forest advisory board: Louie P. Horrell of Arizona, Clarence Currie and Floyd Beach of Colorado, Frank Mockler of Wyoming, Executive Secretary F. E. Mollin and Assistant Executive Secretary Radford Hall for the American National Live Stock Association; and J. B. Wilson of Wyoming, Vernon Metcalf of Nevada, John Noh of Idaho, Everett E. Shuey of Montana, and Secretary J. M. Jones for the National Wool Growers Association.

Bills have passed the South Dakota legislature which ban importation of stock infested with screw worms, bar transportation of such stock within the state, give the livestock sanitary board quarantine control over such animals and set punishment for violations.

The Production and Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture has announced that price support on 1950 wool products will be at 90 per cent of the parity price of wool on Mar. 15, 1950.

Under ruling recently made by Colorado's attorney general, all heifer calves must be vaccinated for the control of Bang's disease. As of Jan. 1, 1951, heifer

calves that have reached six months of age and prior to the time they reach the age of 15 months must be officially vaccinated, according to the ruling. Dave Rice, secretary of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, says the ruling comes as a surprise to most cattlemen, since it was thought that the act dealt solely with dairy cattle. The Colorado association favors a voluntary program for beef cattle.

Wyoming's legislature has enacted a grasshopper control law designed to save the state's lands and crops from a threatened scourge of hoppers this summer, with \$750,000 appropriated for state participation. It calls for no land-owner financial participation. Another enacted measure provides for a closer check on cattle being moved across state and county lines.

## TO HELP IN RATE BOARD WORK

The New Mexico Cattle Growers Association has offered its assistance to a freight rate equalization board, among members of which may be A. D. Brownfield of Deming, N. M. A study of New Mexico rates will be begun soon.

## Winners Named in Miami Fishing Contest

Final results of the contest to determine which American National convention attender could catch the biggest fish are now in. It is pretty generally agreed that the windy weather which prevailed on the Sunday following the close of the meeting prevented many of the would-be contestants from taking part. To them, our sympathy because they didn't get in on the fun; to those who went out but didn't succeed in winning one of the prizes, a salute for a good try! And now, here are the names of the winners, the weights of their entries and the prizes they received.

First prize: A handsome wood carving of horse and rider, made by Roy Lennberg of Akeley, Minn., and contributed by Andrew Johnston of the Western Trading Post at Dickinson, N. D. The winner: Ernest May, Jr., Sunshine, Wyo. The entry: A 40-pound, 8-ounce sailfish.

Second prize: A gold and silver, jewelled belt buckle, donated by Stone Livestock Supply Company, Denver, Colo. The winner: Mrs. Manville Kendrick, Sheridan, Wyo. The entry: An 18-pound, 6-ounce grouper. (Incidentally, Mrs. Kendrick did very well at the convention, since she was also one of the four winners in the waltz contest which was held.)

Third prize: A beautifully engraved set of spurs and bit, presented by Franklin Serum Company. The winner: Joseph D. Jones, Malad, Ida. The entry: A 12-pound barracuda.

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RODUCER

## New Brush Cutter

(Continued from Page 13)

cut the brush had completely killed out the grass and we reseeded with Sand-love. This African grass thrives in territories with very low annual rainfall (nine inches) and we are going to reseed with both this and the native gramma, with the hope that the most adaptable grass will reclaim the area.

FROM all the informed opinions we can get, it is agreed that mesquite will take from the soil approximately four times as much moisture per square area as a good stand of gramma grass. The great number of small leaves in the foliage of the mesquite makes it an almost perfect radiator of moisture. This results in a vicious circle where mesquite gets a hold and immediately begins to rob the grass and useful vegetation of the very limited amount of moisture which we have on our range. Our rainfall is 14 inches per year.

All this is in an early stage and we are experimenting, as is the manufacturer of the cutter. Indications are encouraging enough to make a good many ranchers in this area who saw the demonstration willing to pay their pro rata part along with PMA in clearing as much of their range of mesquite and noxious brush as possible. The economics of the thing will limit expenditure in ranches on public land to an amount on which a return can be recaptured in a reasonable period of years. It is therefore necessary for the government to join with the individual ranchers in this effort for the long-range good of whatever individual might have the use of

## We Correct Some Errors, With Apologies

On Page 20 of the convention-report issue, last month, we ran a picture which we labeled "A good turnout from the state of Kansas." Nothing wrong with that, except that the group shown came from Idaho, a fact we herewith publish for the record.

\* \* \*

On Page 12, bottom picture, in an omission we'd find hard to explain, the man at the extreme right was not identified. He is John E. Sutton, Agar, S. D., vice-president of the South Dakota Stock Growers Association.

\* \* \*

On Page 10 we pictured some of the Juniors as they listened to an address by Alan Rogers of Ellensburg, Wash. Beside Mr. Rogers sat F. M. Simpson, who also spoke to the young cattle raisers. We are only regretful that we described Mr. Simpson as the agricultural research department head with another packing firm instead of Swift & Company, where he actually is.

the surface rights in future years.

The appeal to us on the San Simon is that we might reclaim, with the aid of our landlord, the government, the use of the grass on a considerable area of our range, which area is the most valuable portion, both through grass productivity and proximity to water.

If our experiment, in this small way, is useful to other ranchers, we will be glad to furnish any additional information that anyone might wish to have, with the understanding that it is still in the experimental stage and that long-range results can only be surmised at the present.

## MAY BE BAD HOPPER YEAR

Grasshoppers, boll weevils and European corn borers may cause U. S. farmers and ranchers serious trouble in 1950, entomologists of the Department of Agriculture say. Just how serious grasshopper outbreaks will be in 1950 now depends primarily on weather conditions at hatching time, and the availability of green food for the tiny hoppers as they leave the egg beds. Greatest threats appear to be in Montana, North Dakota and Wyoming. But farmers from Texas to Canada and west to California may be forced to fight hoppers in many places.

## Montana Youths Win Reward

Three Stillwater County (Montana) young people each received a third of \$1,000 reward paid by the Montana Stockgrowers Association for preventing a livestock theft. The youngsters, Alice and Peder Winge, Jr., and Ray Hertzler, riding in Bad Canyon on the upper Stillwater, saw a man driving a cow and three unbranded calves and carrying a calf across his saddle. They questioned the man and his answers made them suspicious. The sheriff was called. It was found that the little calf mothered up to a cow belonging to George McKinsey of Limestone. The man, Clyde Fahlgren, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year in the state penitentiary.

## PRODUCT ASSISTS RANCH BIRTHS

A simple, readily portable calf puller designed by a Sterling, Colo., veterinary specialist in animal obstetrics is distributed by the Dencolo Corporation of Denver. The instrument consists of a 17-inch breech-spanner with adjustable rump strap for holding it securely beneath the cow's pin bones. Sellers of the device caution ranchers that it must be used carefully, since in unskilled hands it can do damage as well as good. Properly handled, it is a convenient way for the rancher to apply simple traction where the cow merely needs a little help . . . the result: a live calf.

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This National All-Female Dedication Congress Sale will be held at the Fairgrounds, Springfield, Missouri, April 25. Come on! Come all! You'll enjoy seeing your friends; attending the Parade, Banquet, Meetings, etc. Sale consists of ALL-FEMALES. Cows, not more than 7 years old at last birthday; Heifers, not less than 18 months old and bred. All animals accepted for sale required to pass inspection of committee appointed by State or District Ass'n. Each State or District Ass'n limited to ten (10) head. Free Catalog.

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## The Bunchgrass Fetish

(Continued from Page 10)

United States. There, on the dry range areas of Idaho, Oregon and Washington the old climax bunchgrass known as bluebunch wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*) was the principal grass of the present vast wheat fields and valleys and foothills. Cheatgrass has replaced this bunchgrass on thousands of acres of native range and pasture. Grass fires have been the principal cause of the replacement. The bluebunch wheatgrass, like other bunchgrasses, is palatable mainly in the early growing period. It is practically worthless from September on. There is some green regrowth in the late fall which affords palatable forage. If it could be replaced by good grasses like the grama, buffalo grass, bromegrass, wheatgrass, etc., rather than the undesirable cheatgrass and the not too desirable early bluegrass (*Poa secunda*) at higher elevations, the livestock

industry would benefit. That is not to be, however, without expensive reseeding, the only feasible way to get rid of cheatgrass. Where reseeding is done the bluebunch wheatgrass is not used, which makes another case against the bunchgrasses. If the bunchgrasses are not good enough for reseeding projects, the question naturally arises as to why they are good enough to cause the cutting and slashing of grazing permits in order to restore the bunchgrass.

Kentucky bluegrass is mentioned above as one of the grasses that replaces the mountain bunchgrasses when the latter are weakened by too heavy grazing. This grass, the same as the most widely used lawn grass, has been seeded far and wide in the mountains by the Forest Service and the stockmen. It took hold very aggressively even where grazing was heaviest. It regrows rapidly when grazed and it makes a fine sod as it does in the lawns. Imagine the astonishment of stockmen and older forest offi-

## Letter from Skull Creek

DEAR EDITOR:

At times the quiet serenity of this Skull creek ranch really seems rather boresum and gets on my nerves. As you have no doubt gathered from my letters to you I am what might be termed a very intelligent man and therefore desire a small amount of spice in my life which I don't seem to get, at least very often any more. You have seen that picture maybe of that old New England family trudging along to church, or homeward bound, where the man was carrying a blunder buss and a turkey and the wife in her white neck piece carrying a bible, and the children carrying nothing. Well, as I trudge around this ranch at times I feel very much like him and I imagine to myself that this pitchfork is an old blunder buss and I keep one eye cocked for a wild turkey or a wild Indian. But nothing happens. Don't even see a cotton tail.

This long haired dog, Shakespeare, doesn't even bark or bay at the moon and if it wasn't for the cows bawling for their calves this place would sure seem like one of those old settlements in the days when the Plymouth Rock was still standing on that firm and rock bound coast of Vermont. But perhaps it is better that way. I don't know. Some times I get to looking wishfully out towards the ranch's main gate to see if I can see that simple sheriff driving in. But no, he doesn't come. Then old McDowd, whom I have told you about so much, instead of singing rather bravely about Jesse James and Sam Bass in those hill billie songs of his'n, goes around singing: some where the sun is shining, some where the song birds dwell. I think one of these days I can get Tex to go with me and we will let the pole fence down over back and high tail it for town on our saddle horses without

the women folks and see what happens there, if any thing.

As I hinted to you above it is calving season here on Skull creek now and with all of these cows trying to have calves at one time they are running us ragged so to speak. One man has charge of the pure breeds and each of those calves is promptly ear tagged. Tex suggested a little silver anklet for each one of them but Mollie gave him such a withering look that he suggested nothing more. Although the winter has been mild, or rather so, we have fed lots of hay and quite a lot of cake also. One thing I like about winter on this ranch is going to a breakfast of buck wheat cakes with honey, and sausages and coffee. Our cook has one of those old fashioned soap stone griddles that he can juggle about six cakes on at a time. The way that old sour batter smells in his big crock you wouldn't think those cakes would be fit for a hog to eat. But I sure like them. We get about 10 of those 5 gallon cans of strained honey the bees make over in Utah ever fall and it is sure good on pan cakes. I hope your wife can make buck wheat cakes like these for you.

Well, I suppose that perhaps you are some what anxious to hear how me and Tex are getting along as minority part owners of this cow outfit. Our wives, Mollie and Hazel, are not holding us too strictly to that mutual agreement we signed over in Denver awhile back. They sometimes concede a little and some times we concede a little. However, they always insist that we act some what like real important men of this community, as it were, and they quite often appear to consult us on ranch affairs.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM (BILL) WESCOTT.

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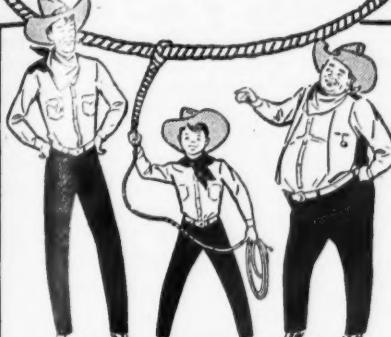
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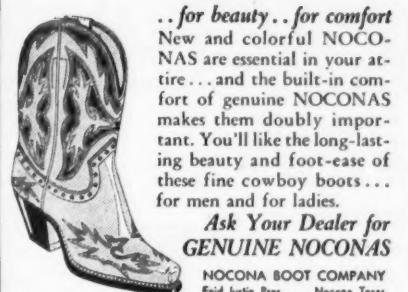


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Angus Breeders' Association. *TOMORROW'S BEEF CATTLE TODAY*. Chicago 9, Illinois

March, 1950

cials when the newer Forest Service men in the Colorado-Wyoming region began to condemn it and ignore its presence where it was the principal argument against a proposed reduction of grazing permit. If all of the bunchgrasses could be replaced by Kentucky bluegrass the livestock industry and the watersheds of the mountains would be greatly benefited. (The technical name of Kentucky bluegrass is *Poa pratensis*.)

Such is the short story of the western bunchgrasses in the economy of range and livestock operations. If there were no domestic livestock in the West and never had been any; if there were now only the wild grazing animals, the buffalo, deer, elk, antelope and their carnivorous enemies which kept their numbers in strict control, there would be some excuse for "babying" the bunchgrasses along. Intensive production of food for ever increasing human populations will not tolerate long the fantastic, shallow management of wild lands by so-called scientists, designed to restore bunchgrasses to our ranges which have better forage on them than they ever had in bunchgrass days. If climax, native vegetation were the answer to our western agriculture we would have no grain fields. We would need only the bunchgrasses which so many wheat fields have replaced.

## Forest Appeal Boards

(Continued from Page 7)

Finally, the secretary himself could not afford to set up such a board for the mere purpose of whitewashing the Forest Service. The reaction to such a program would be terrific, and to the discredit of the secretary, the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture as a whole.

While all the things mentioned above do not solve the basic forest problem, the need for legislation patterned after the Taylor Grazing Act to cover the administration of the forest preserves and to give some protection to the permittees operating thereon, yet it would seem that the trend now is definitely away from the arbitrary administration of the forests by an organization which makes its own rules and regulations with the full force and effect of law. This is as it should be. The type of administration of the forests which we have had in the past five to ten years has no place in a democratic government.

## 85 PER CENT OF LAND IS PRIVATELY OWNED

Private individuals owned nearly 85 per cent of farm land in the United States, according to a recent BAE study. Forty-one per cent of the farm acreage of the country was reported to be in farms of 1,000 acres or more. Less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 per cent were under 10 acres; only 3 per cent of owners had 1,000 acres or more. Individual farmer owners hold 70 per cent of the farm land, with an average acreage of 244 acres per farm.

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### U. S. Cattle and Calves

State	Jan. 1, 1949	Jan. 1, 1950
Arizona	849,000	849,000
California	2,736,000	2,709,000
Colorado	1,800,000	1,746,000
Florida	1,265,000	1,392,000
Georgia	1,099,000	1,220,000
Idaho	939,000	939,000
Kansas	3,591,000	3,627,000
Louisiana	1,332,000	1,439,000
Mississippi	1,522,000	1,674,000
Montana	1,902,000	1,731,000
Nebraska	3,877,000	3,920,000
Nevada	541,000	552,000
New Mexico	1,178,000	1,166,000
North Dakota	1,558,000	1,542,000
Oklahoma	2,481,000	2,655,000
Oregon	1,118,000	1,107,000
South Dakota	2,556,000	2,479,000
Texas	8,406,000	8,658,000
Utah	549,000	560,000
Washington	868,000	885,000
Wyoming	1,011,000	1,001,000

\* In American National territory.

### Obituaries

**James Laidlaw:** Creator of the Panama breed of sheep and well known among stockmen of Idaho, where he made his home at Boise. Mr. Laidlaw, a native of Scotland, was 81.

**Khalil Kingsbury:** Prominent Malad Valley (Ida.) citizen, who was known for his interest in the stockman's problems. Mr. Kingsbury was 69.

## Personal Mention

A group of 100 ranchers, farmers and businessmen on a Florida tour sponsored by the Seaboard Air Line Railroad heard talks on pasture development research, beef gain studies and fattening practices. Ranches visited included the pastures of Parker Brothers, the Durrance Ranch and Lykes Brothers, all near Brighton, and the Norris Cattle Company, Anthony.

E. L. Jameson of Kingman, Ariz., member of the American National's executive committee, met with an accident recently while driving home from Phoenix. After a car which came at him on the wrong side of the road plowed into him, Mr. Jameson found himself laid up with a badly fractured leg.

**Field Bohart**, Colorado Springs, Colo., was elected president of the Central Colorado Soil Conservation District at a meeting in Colorado Springs. The district lies southeast of that town.

District Judge Dan H. Hughes of Montrose has been re-elected chairman of grazing district No. 4's advisory board.

Clifford E. McDuff has been named to head the Division of Range Management in the southwestern region of the U. S. Forest Service, and will be headquartered at Albuquerque, N. M. Mr. McDuff succeeds Darrell M. Traugh, who resigned Jan. 31 to take up ranching.

Shortly after Loren Bamert returned to his home in California after being elevated to the presidency of the American National at the Miami meeting, 300 guests attended a testimonial dinner in his honor at Ione. The dinner was sponsored by the Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Branch of the California Cattlemen's Association and the Amador County Chamber of Commerce.

Because of increased activities of the National Livestock Loss Presentation Board, Dr. J. R. Pickard was recently chosen to be assistant general manager in charge of work dealing with the reduction of livestock marketing losses in transit and from bruising. Dr. Pickard is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture (1940), and received his veterinary degree from Kansas State College in 1945.

The Deseret Livestock Co. of Salt Lake City is setting up a 132,000-acre ranch and sheep layout in Florida. Henry D. Moyle is president of the new firm, which will stock the ranch with Florida-raised cattle and sheep and will retain the Utah operation.

Marion Nelson, since 1935 an employee of the Forest Service, has been

named assistant chief of the division of fire control in Washington. D. C. Mr. Nelson has served until now as forest supervisor of the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon.

A group of prominent Texas cattle-men and their wives are making a three-week tour of cattle ranches and packing plants in Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. They will also make brief stops at other South American points. Included in the party, which left from Fort Worth last month on a special Pan American Clipper, were Mr. and Mrs. Newton Harrell of Claude; Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Finch of Dalhart; F. A. Finch of Memphis, and Fred Hobart of Pampa. The latter is an executive committeeman of the American National.

Two western men have been named by President Truman to a five-man advisory board for the Commodity Credit Corporation. One is Albert K. Mitchell of Albert, N. M., a past president of the American National, and the other is Elwood M. Brooks, president of the Central Bank and Trust Company at Denver, Colo.

**Chester J. Olsen**, for the past 10 years assistant regional forester at Ogden, Utah, has been promoted to the regional forester's position. He succeeds William "Ben" Rice, who passed away on Jan. 13.

Confidence in the future of livestock raising in the south is the basis for a decision by Ralston Purina Company to build a new \$1,000,000 plant in Macon, Ga., to fill the growing demand for Purina Chows in that area.

### Anders Madsen Named N. D. "Man of the Year"



Anders Madsen

On Feb. 10, at the North Dakota Agriculture College's Saddle and Sirloin Club in Fargo, Anders Madsen, 61-year-old McKenzie County cattlemen, was honored as "North Dakota's Man of the Year." The banquet honoring this cattleman was held on the eve of the 24th annual "Little International Livestock Show" at the college. He was chosen as the 1950 member for the "Hall of Fame," which was established in 1923. Mr. Madsen's portrait was unveiled and added to the group's portraits of North Dakota's outstanding men of agriculture. To date, 34 men have been thus honored.

Mr. Madsen has been running his 9,000-acre "Birdhead Ranch" since 1917. The State Farm Bureau and other agriculture officials joined in paying tribute to him for his work in improving commercial cattle breeding throughout the western part of North Dakota and for his interest in helping young 4-H club members. —LEO D. HARRIS.

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SLAUGHTER HOUSE about 3 years old in rural district. Eqpt. 1 beef bed and hog killing eqpt. 2 coolers that will accommodate 150 beef. Wide open territory for good man. Best of living conditions. Call: James Armstrong, Vista, Calif. Vista 2091 or write: P. O. Box 294.

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DO YOU find it difficult to secure information about sheep and sheep ranching methods? The Sheep and Goat Raiser reaches more sheepmen with more information on range sheep than any other magazine published. Subscriptions, one year—\$1.00, three years—\$3.00. **Sheep & Goat Raiser**, Hotel Cactus, San Angelo, Texas.

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CRESTED WHEATGRASS seed, hardy stock, dry land grown, high purity, quantity prices. B & B Co., Valentine, Nebr.

SEVELRA ALFALFA, a new falcated hybrid developed under extreme drought conditions. Recommended for dry land grass seeding mixtures. James O. Beck, Mayfield Stage, Boise, Idaho.

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300,000 FRUIT TREES grown in virgin western soil—Apples, Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines, Prunes, Plums, Pears, Cherries, Filberts, Almonds, Walnuts, Shrubs, Flowering and Shade Trees. Berries of all kinds. ROSES, bulbs. Send for free 48-page catalog of over 700 varieties.

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### MISCELLANEOUS

NEW AND USED PARTS FOR ARMY TRUCKS AND JEEPS. Arrow Truck Parts Co., 3031 W. Central, P.O. 762, Albuquerque, N. M. Phone 3-2551.

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MOVIE CAMERAS AND PROJECTORS—Revere and Keystone. Lowest prices; free catalog. Cavalier Camera, 1822 Center Ave., Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

CATTLE BRANDS in Sterling Silver.  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch face, 2 inch shank, \$3. Tie bars, \$3.50. Pins, \$3.50. Post and federal tax paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Calif. residents add sales tax. Steve Hudak, 600 Irving Ave., Monterey, Calif.

## Angus Cattle

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### Salt Regulates Feed

RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS WITH salt as a governor of cottonseed meal consumption by cattle are reported by the USDA Southern Great Plains Field Station at Woodward, Okla., and, says the report, this method offers possibilities for use in grazing distribution unless ill effects should result from failure of the cattle to have convenient access to water after eating the mixture.

In the tests made (there were no tests of salt-meal for grazing distribution), which were conducted in comparison with the customary hand feeding of cottonseed cake made from the same meal,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound of No. 4 crushed rock salt per head was required to maintain daily meal consumption at the desired rates, on a self-fed basis.

### Mixture for Weaners and Yearlings

A proportion of 1 part of salt to 4 parts of meal kept consumption to 2 pounds for weaner calves. As the feeding periods progressed, it became necessary to increase to 9/16 to 10/16 pound for every 2 pounds of meal.

The daily meal consumption of self-fed yearling steers was held at 1 pound through the summer feeding period of 1949 by a mixture of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound salt to every pound of meal. Long yearlings were maintained on a meal ration of 2 pounds during the early part of the current winter on a self-fed mixture of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of salt to 2 pounds of meal. The cattle, however, appeared to develop a greater tolerance for salt as the season progressed and salt had to be



Mar. 14-15—Convention, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers, San Antonio.

Mar. 14-16 — Convention, Kansas Livestock Assn., Topeka.

Mar. 18—11th spring bull sale, Idaho Cattlemen's Assn., Twin Falls.

Mar. 23-24—Convention, Louisiana Cattlemen's Assn., Alexandria.

Mar. 25-31—Montana Winter Fair, Bozeman.

Mar. 26-28—36th annual convention, New Mexico Cattle Growers Assn., Albuquerque.

Mar. 27-28 --- Convention, Idaho Cattlemen's Assn., Boise.

Mar. 31—Montana Hereford Assn. "Show Window Sale" at Bozeman.

Apr. 1-6—Grand National Junior Livestock Exposition, San Francisco.

May 8-10—37th convention, Oregon Cattlemen's Assn., Klamath Falls.

May 18-20—Convention, Washington Cattlemen's Assn., Omak.

May 20—Convention, Sandhills Cattle Assn., Bassett, Nebr.

May 25-27—Convention, Montana Stockgrowers Assn., Billings.

June 1-3—Convention, South Dakota Stock Growers, Ft. Pierre.

June 6-8—Convention, Wyoming Stock Growers Assn., Cody.

June 8-10—Convention, Nebraska Stock Growers Assn., Alliance.

June 8-10—Convention, North Dakota Stockmen's Assn., Bismarck.

June 21-24—Convention, Colorado Cattlemen's Assn., Ft. Morgan.

Nov. 1-3—Convention, U. S. Livestock Sanitary Assn., Phoenix, Ariz.

Dec. 5-8—National Wool Growers' convention, Casper, Wyo.

### COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

(In Thousands of Pounds)

	Feb. 1	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Feb. 1
Frozen Beef	116,653	108,263	135,186	148,320
Cured Beef	13,279	12,473	15,672	12,076
Total Pork	580,704	473,741	585,215	489,588
Lamb, Mutton	14,363	13,811	22,466	19,264
Lard & Rend.				
Pork Fat	93,172	73,995	160,610	116,418
Total Poultry	294,645	292,513	148,418	287,667

### CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

Feb. 22, 1950 Feb. 23, 1949

Steers—Choice	\$31.00-38.00	\$25.50-29.50
Steers—Good	25.50-32.50	23.00-26.00
Steers—Medium	22.50-25.50	20.50-23.50
Vealers—Gd.-Ch.	29.00-32.00	19.00-21.50
Calves—Gd.-Ch.	25.00-30.00	23.00-29.00
F.&S. Strs.—Gd.-Ch.	23.00-26.50	22.00-25.50
F.&S. Strs.—Cm.-Md.	19.50-23.25	18.50-22.00
Hogs (200-240 lbs.)	16.75-17.10	20.75-21.75
Lambs—Gd. Ch.	24.00-26.50	23.75-24.75
Ewes—Gd.-Ch.	12.50-14.50	10.50-13.00

### WHOLESALE DRESSED MEATS

(New York)

	Feb. 20, 1950	Feb. 21, 1949
Steer—Choice	\$51.25-54.50	\$41.00-43.00
Steer—Good	41.25-45.00	38.00-40.00
Steer—Comm.	37.00-40.00	36.00-38.00
Cow—Commercial	33.00-36.00	33.00-35.00
Veal—Choice	48.00-52.00	48.00-51.00
Veal—Good	44.00-48.00	41.00-46.00
Lamb—Choice	47.00-53.00	44.50-50.00
Pork Loin—8-12 lbs.	46.00-49.00	48.00-50.00

### FEDERALLY INSPI. SLAUGHTER

(In Thousands)

	Jan.	Jan.	12 Mos.	12 Mos.
Cattle	1950	1949	1949	1948
Calves	1,003	1,126	12,994	13,222
Hogs	465	484	6,907	6,449
Sheep	5,844	5,376	47,615	53,032
	1,078	1,235	15,343	12,136

total minerals will be required to regulate meal consumption on a self-fed basis, because cattle usually prefer straight salt to mixtures of the several minerals.

### COUNTY ADVISOR EXPERIMENTS

In order to test the advantages of the comparatively new method of mixing large amounts of salt with a feed supplement for range cattle, Bob Anderson, Tulare County, California, farm advisor, did some experiments to find out if it was practical to feed the salt to cut down on the work of feeding by slowing down or prolonging the feeding.

The feed mixture consisted of cottonseed meal 70 per cent; salt, 25 per cent; minerals, 5 per cent. The salt mixed feed was placed a quarter mile from the water supply so that the cattle would not be able to quench their thirst so easily and would be encouraged to eat more range grass along with the supply of feed.

The experiment proved that not only was the 25 per cent salt mixture worthwhile in the saving of labor but that the salt appeared to have increased the digestion of cellulose which normally is rather indigestible.—CLARENCE TONTZ.

### COMBINATION WEED KILLER BEST

The USDA reports its rural electrification cooperatives throughout the country have turned to almost universal use of a combination of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T for weed control along REA rights of way. The addition of the latter-named was said to make the treatment more effective than straight 2,4-D against a wider range of brush plants.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER